



GIANT
#67

25c



BATMAN

THE STRANGEST CASES
FROM
BATMAN'S CRIME-FILE!

FEB.

NO. 218



THE BODY IN
THE BATCAVE!



GIANT BATMAN

Featuring
the greatest
cases from
Batman's
Crime File

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BATMAN AND ROBIN'S GREATEST MYSTERY

The Dynamic Duo faces its greatest challenge...solving the most closely guarded secret in Gotham City...their own identities!

THE HAND FROM NOWHERE

Where did the mysterious, disembodied hand come from? Why did it steal only certain metals? The answer makes this one of the most fantastic surprise stories in the Batman saga.

THE MAN WHO COULDN'T BE TRIED TWICE

A suspect accused of murder is acquitted by Batman's testimony...and, knowing he cannot be tried again for the same crime, he boasts that he is guilty—and has fooled the Caped Crime-fighter!

THE BODY IN THE BATCAVE

A murder is committed in...of all places...the Batcave! Now Batman must try to find an unknown killer...who knows his secret identity!

FOUR HOURS TO LIVE

Death in the electric chair awaits a convicted man...and Batman and Robin have only four hours to prove his innocence! A 1944 syndicated newspaper story, never before published in any magazine!

THE LEAGUE AGAINST BATMAN

Who is the Wrecker...that hooded figure who declares total war on Batman...and everyone who has ever glorified his name?



BATMAN

ROBIN

BY BRILLIANT DETECTIVE SKILL AND FLASHING ACTION, BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER HAVE SOLVED MANY A MENACING MYSTERY! BUT NOW GOTHAM CITY'S FAMED MAN-HUNTERS FACE THE SUPREME TEST OF THEIR WHOLE CAREERS WHEN SUDDEN AMNESIA WIPES OUT THEIR MEMORIES! FORGOTTEN BECOMES THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY ARE REALLY BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON, AND SOLVING THE SECRET OF THEIR OWN IDENTITIES BECOMES...

BATMAN and ROBIN'S GREATEST MYSTERY

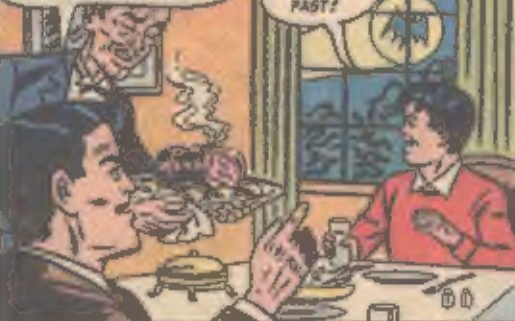
A GREAT PANDER
THREATENS GOTHAM CITY,
BUT WE CAN'T
REMEMBER WHAT
IT IS--OR WHO
WE ARE!



ONE EVENING, AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, SEE A SIGNAL IN THE SKY...

HMM... THAT ROAST LOOKS GOOD, ALFRED-- BUT THERE'S THE BAT SIGNAL!

WE'D BETTER SWITCH TO BATMAN AND ROBIN FAST!



PRESENTLY, IN THE SECRET BAT-CAVE UNDER THE WAYNE MANSION, THE DUO MAKES A HASTY CHANGE OF COSTUME...

BUT DINNER WILL BE RUINED, SIR!

CAN'T HELP IT, ALFRED-- WE HAVE TO FIND OUT WHAT COMMISSIONER GORDON WANTS!



SOON, OUTSIDE POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

BATMAN... WE'RE INVESTIGATING A ROBBERY OF SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT FROM THE GOTHAM RESEARCH FOUNDATION! YOUR SCIENTIFIC ABILITY COULD HELP ON THIS!

HOP IN OUR MAYMOBILE, COMMISSIONER, AND WE'LL GET THERE FAST!



CRIMINALS COULD USE THAT SONIC BEAM TO COMMIT BIG CRIMES! WE'LL TRY TO RUN DOWN THE THIEF FAST!

KEEP ME INFORMED, BATMAN-- THIS SOUNDS SERIOUS!



LATER, IN THE LABORATORY OF THE GOTHAM RESEARCH CENTER...

HMM, ONLY A ROBBER WITH A SCIENTIFIC BACKGROUND COULD SAFELY BREAK INTO THIS DANGEROUS ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT!

OUR NEW ULTRA-SONIC BEAM PROJECTOR WAS STOLEN! IT CREATES SONIC WAVES WHICH CAN FAIRLY STUN ANIMALS INTO A STATE OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS!



FEW CRIMINALS WOULD HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE TO ROB THAT DANGEROUS LAB--ONE IS JAY CAIRO, THE SCIENTIST WHO WAS JAILED FOR ESPIONAGE! HE'D BE OUT OF PRISON BY NOW!

THEN WE LOOK UP CAIRO FIRST!



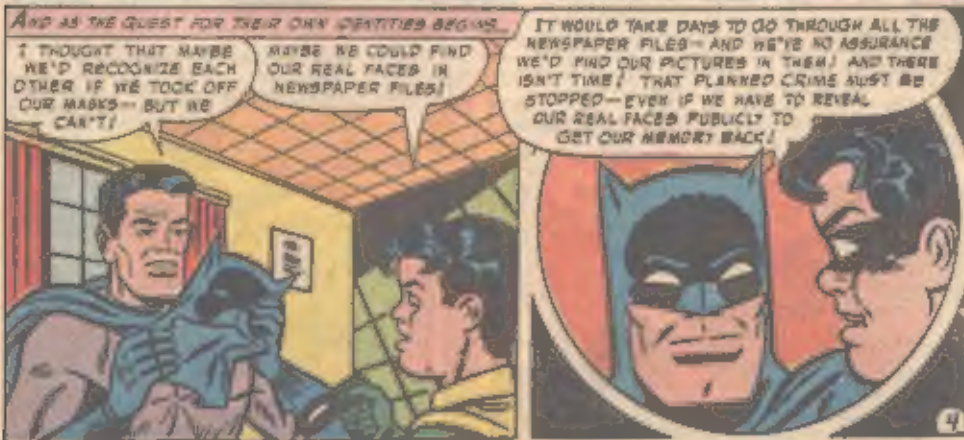


GIANT BATMAN





GIANT BATMAN

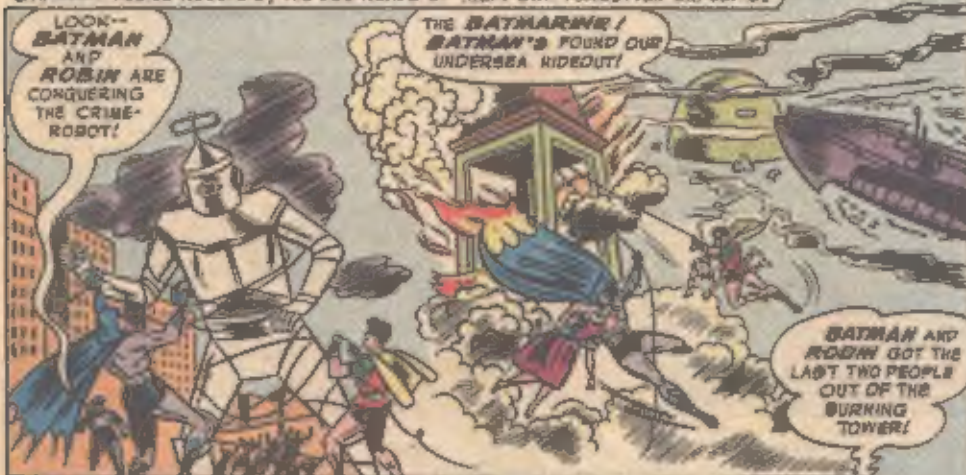




GIANT BATMAN



EXAMINING POLICE RECORDS, THE DUO REAPS OF THEIR OWN FORGOTTEN EXPLOITS!



LOOK--
BATMAN
AND
ROBIN ARE
CONQUERING
THE CRIME-
ROBOT!

THE **BATMACHINE**!
BATMAN'S FOUND OUR
UNDERSEA HIDEOUT!

BATMAN AND
ROBIN GOT THE
LAST TWO PEOPLE
OUT OF THE
BURNING
TOWER!



GOSH, IT SEEMS WE'VE
DONE SOME PRETTY
TERRIFIC THINGS IN
THE PAST-- BUT I
CAN'T REMEMBER
THEM!

THERE'S NO CLUE
TO OUR IDENTITIES
IN THESE STORIES--
LET'S SEE IF THERE
ARE ANY CLUES ON
OURSELVES!



AFTER MINUTELY EXAMINING THEIR UTILITY BELTS AND
COSTUMES...

NO-- WE'VE APPARENTLY
BEEN CAREFUL THAT THERE'S
NO SINGLE CLUE TO OUR
IDENTITIES ON OUR PERSONS--
JUST IN CASE WE EVER
GOT CAPTURED!

WITH THAT CRIME-MYSTERY
THREATENING, WE **MUST**
GET OUR MEMORIES BACK
FAST! MAYBE COMMISSIONER
GORDON CAN HELP US!



PRESENTLY--
COMMISSIONER, WHEN I
FIRST VOLUNTEERED TO
HELP THE POLICE, DID I
TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT
MYSELF WHICH MIGHT OFFER
A CLUE TO MY REAL
IDENTITY?

YOU DIDN'T TELL ME WHO YOU
WERE! I REMEMBER
YOUR FIRST APPEARANCE
QUITE CLEARLY--



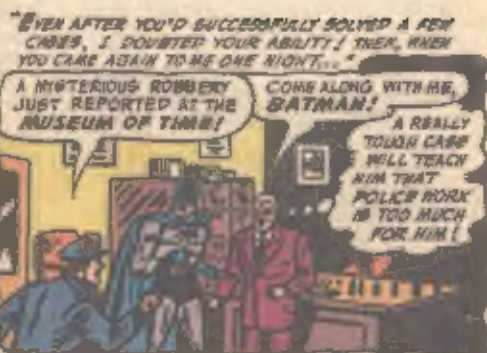
"I WAS WORKING LATE THAT NIGHT
AND I LOOKED UP SURPRISED IN
AMAZEMENT..."

THAT QUEER COSTUME--
THAT MASK-- WHO
ARE YOU?

MY REAL NAME, NO
ONE WILL EVER KNOW!
BUT YOU CAN CALL
ME-- **BATMAN!** AND
I WANT TO HELP THE POLICE
IN THEIR WORK!



GIANT BATMAN





GIANT BATMAN



SO, FROM THE FIRST, YOU TOLD ME NOTHING OF WHO YOU WERE! I NEVER HAVE TRIED TO LEARN YOUR IDENTITY!

WELL, THANKS ANYWAY--~~ROBIN~~ AND I WILL KEEP TRYING!

BUT SECONDS LATER...

HE DID TELL US ONE FACT-- THAT IN MY REAL IDENTITY, I WAS SOMEONE WHO ~~WAS~~ SUFFERED FROM CRIME!

BUT THAT ALONE WILL NEVER TELL US WHO YOU ARE! OR WHO I AM!



RACING AGAINST TIME, THE MARKSMEN SEEK ANOTHER CLUE TO THEMSELVES...

THESE ARE RECORDS OF YOUR FIRST EXPLOITS WITH THE **BATPLANE** WHEN YOU STARTED TO USE IT-- BUT THEY TELL US NOTHING!

MAYBE THIS, ONE OF MY EARLIEST **BATPLANE** FEATS, IS A CLUE! IT TELLS NOW--



"... AN EXHIBITION FLIGHT BY A LITTLE, EARLY-DAY AIRPLANE WENT WRONG OVER GOTHAM CITY!"

LOOK, THAT OLD-TYPE BIPLANE HAS STALLED-- IT'LL CRASH!

THERE'S **BATMAN** IN HIS **BATPLANE**, BUT HE CAN'T HELP!



"BUT, TO PREVENT A CRASH INTO CITY STREETS, I TRIED..."

I'VE GOT TO MATCH ITS SPEED EXACTLY, KEEP RIGHT UNDER IT--

"AND I DID!"

WOW! WHAT A FLYING FEAT!



BATMAN'S TRYING TO CATCH THE LITTLE BIPLANE ON THE BATPLANE'S BACK!





GIANT BATMAN



THAT WAS ONE OF MY EARLIEST **BATPLANE** EXPLOITS--SO I MUST HAVE BEEN A TRAINED FLIER BEFORE I USED THE BATPLANE!

THEN YOU'RE SOME-ONE WITH AN AVIATOR'S LICENSE, AND WHO HAD SUFFERED FROM CRIME! BUT THAT DOESN'T NARROW IT DOWN ENOUGH!

AND UNLESS WE RECOVER OUR IDENTITIES AND MEMORIES SOON, IT MAY BE TOO LATE!

WE HAVE TO GET **MORE** CLUES TO PIN DOWN OUR IDENTITIES!



HERE ARE RECORDS OF THE FIRST CASES IN WHICH YOU HELPED ME--BUT THEY CONTAIN NO CLUE TO YOUR IDENTITY, EITHER!

BATMAN. HERE'S A CASE THAT MAY HOLD A LEAD TO US!

*IT SAYS WE ONCE CHASED A WANTED MAN WHO TOOK REFUGE INSIDE A GOTHAM CITY MACHINE SHOP.

THERE HE GOES--INTO THAT MACHINE SHOP CLOSED FOR THE NIGHT!

AFTER HIM!



*WE PURSUED HIM INSIDE, AND THEN...

HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN HERE!

THERE WAS A LIGHT IN THE OFFICE--THE OWNER MUST BE STILL HERE AND HE MAY KNOW WHERE--

*BUT THEN WE SAW HIM, TOO LATE!

I'LL TURN ON ALL THE BIG MACHINES TO KEEP 'EM BUSY--AND JAM THE SWITCHES SO NO ONE CAN TURN THEM OFF!

BATMAN. THERE HE IS--



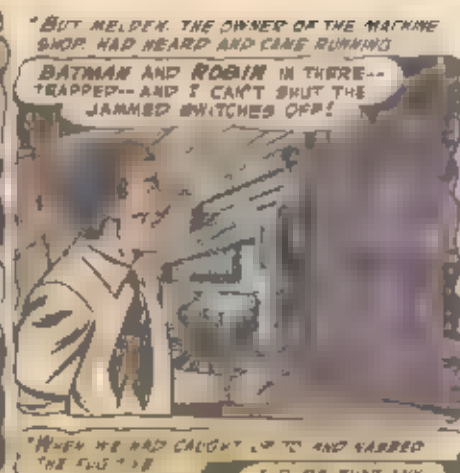


GIANT BATMAN



"SUDDENLY ALL AROUND US. MECHANICAL CHAOS WAS
LEaving US--"

DOWN ROBIN--
THESE MACHINES ARE RUINING NO
W.D. CAN'T GET THROUGH
THEM!



"BUT MELDEX, THE OWNER OF THE MACHINE
SHOP, HAD HEARD AND CAME RUNNING

BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THERE--
TRAPPED--AND I CAN'T SHUT THE
JAMMED SWITCHES OFF!

"TO HELP US, HE WRECKED HIS WHOLE
MACHINE--"



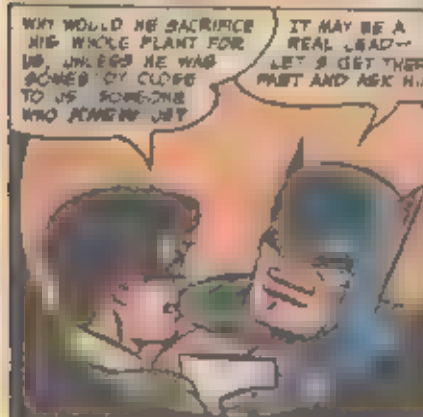
SHORT-CIRCUITING THE MACHINES
CONTROLS WILL BURN THEM OUT AND
KILL THE MACHINES-- BUT I'LL
STOP THEM.



"WHEN HE HAD CAUGHT UP TO AND NABBED
THE TWO--"

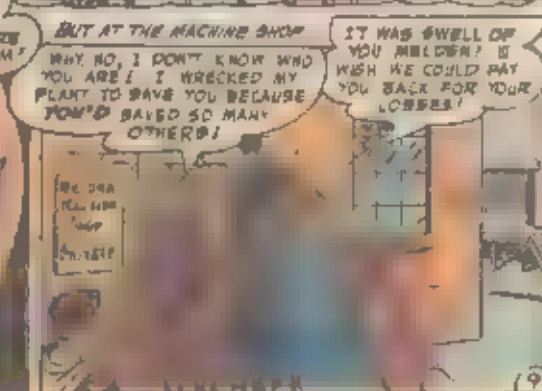
YOU RUINED YOUR
WHOLE MACHINERY SHOP
FOR US!

I'D DO THAT ANY
TIME FOR YOU!



WHY WOULD HE SACRIFICE
HIS WHOLE PLANT FOR
US, UNLESS HE WAS
BOMBED BY CLOSE
TO US, SOMEONE
WHO KNEW US?

IT MAY BE A
REAL LEAD--
LET'S GET THERE
FAST AND ASK HIM!



BUT AT THE MACHINE SHOP

WHY NO, I DON'T KNOW WHO
YOU ARE! I WRECKED MY
PLANT TO SAVE YOU BECAUSE
YOU'D SAVED SO MANY
OTHERS!

IT WAS SWELL OF
YOU MELDEX! I
WISH WE COULD PAY
YOU BACK FOR YOUR
LOSSES!

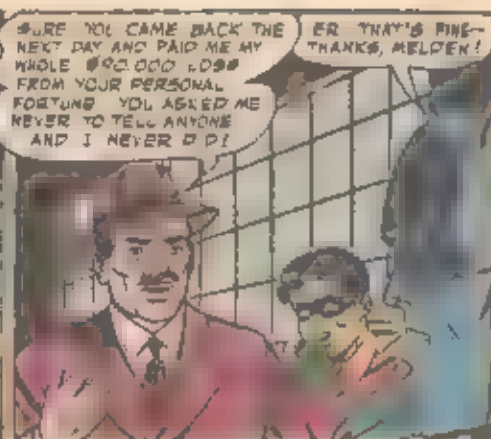


GIANT BATMAN



BUT YOU **DID** PAY ME BACK ALL MY LOSSES AND I GOT NEW MACHINES--DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

I DID?



SURE YOU CAME BACK THE NEXT DAY AND PAID ME MY WHOLE \$50,000 LOSS FROM YOUR PERSONAL FORTUNE. YOU ASKED ME NEVER TO TELL ANYONE AND I NEVER DID!

ER THAT'S FINE--THANKS, Melden!



WELL, WE GOT ANOTHER CLUE TO MYSELF AFTER ALL. MY REAL IDENTITY I MUST BE **WEALTHY** TO HAVE A PERSONAL FORTUNE!

IT SEEMS SO. FUNNY THOSE CALLUSES ON YOUR HAND MAKE ME THINK YOU MUST BE A WORKINGMAN OF SOME KIND!



MAYBE THESE CALLUSES CAN GIVE ANOTHER CLUE TO WHO I AM

WE'D BETTER FIND OUT FAST. IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE TO STOP WHAT EVER CRIME COUP IS PLANNED!



AND, BACK AT HEADQUARTERS, AFTER SEARCHING A VARIETY OF OBJECTS, A STRANGE TRY-OUT..

NO, A TENNIS RACKET WOULDN'T MAKE CALLUSES IN THE POSITION THESE ARE--SO I'M NOT A TENNIS-PLAYER!

TRY THIS GOLF CLUB!



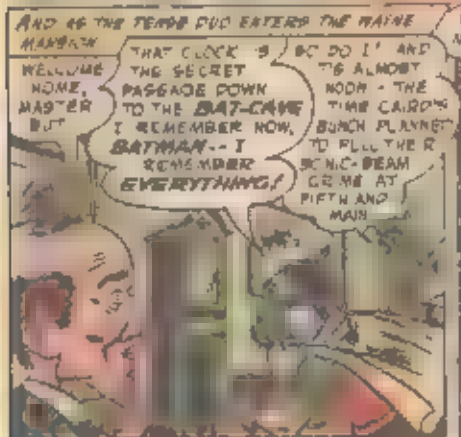
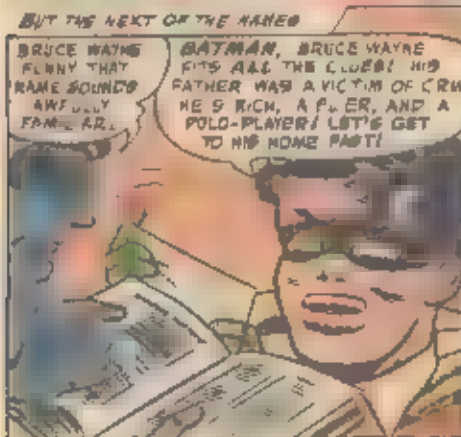
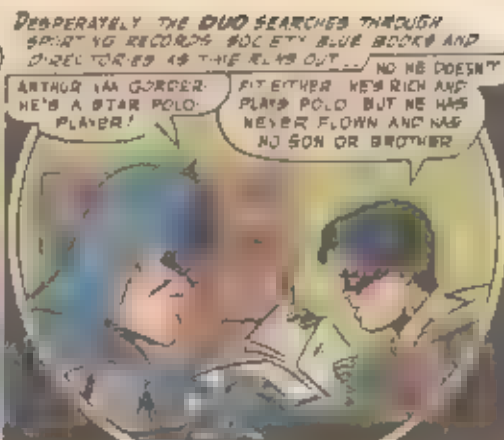
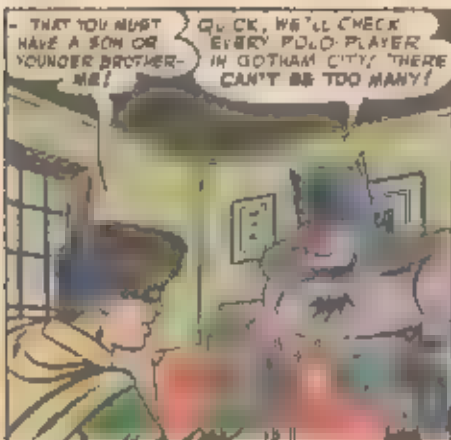
AND AFTER HAND TRIALS

ROBIN THIS IS IT! THIS **POLO Mallet** WOULD MAKE EXACTLY SUCH CALLUSES!

THEN WE KNOW YOU'RE RICH THAT YOU ONCE SUFFERED FROM CRIME THAT YOU'D EARNED FLYING AND ARE A POLO-PLAYER AND--



GIANT BATMAN





GIANT BATMAN



AFTER A SWIFT DRIVE AT A BUSY CORNER

THE GOTHAM TRUST PAYROLL TRUCK COMES THROUGH HERE AT NOON TODAY THAT SON O' BEAM CAN STUN 'S GUARDS AND EVERYONE ELSE IN THIS AREA!

WHY THE STUNKED PRINCE WOULD COLLIDE IN TERRIBLE CRASHES! BATMAN WE'VE GOT TO STOP THAT

BUT AS FIFTEEN SECONDS CREEP TOWARD NOON

THEY COULD BE IN ANY BUILDING! WE'VE NO TIME TO SEARCH THEM ALL!

THEIR PLAN IS TO GET AWAY FAST AFTER THE ROBBERY AND TO USE THE PROJECTOR TO STOP PURSUIT! SO THEY'D BE NA AN-LIKE THAT ONE



AND WHEN THE REAR DOORS OF THE BIG VAN OPEN

IT'S THEN WE'LL TURN THE SONIC BEAM ON THE TRUCK AND ALL OTHER TRAFFIC TO CREATE CONFUSION

NO FLAMING CAR!

AND BEFORE THE DEADLY WEAPON CAN BE UNLOADED

YOU GOT WAY OFF THE BEAM AND YOU'LL BE PUT BACK IN THE PRISON



BUT WHEN BATMAN RETURNS THE OTHER APPARATUS

BATMAN THIS SONIC BEAM PROJECTOR PROVED SO DANGEROUS THAT WE WANT YOU TO KEEP IT

CRACK A GAPE PLACE FOR IT

LATER IN THE GREAT HALL OF TROPHIES IN THE BAT CAVE

A TROPH OF OUR STRANGEST MYSTERY-- THE MYSTERY OF OUR OWN IDENTITIES;

AND WE CAN THANK OUR STARS THAT WE ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO EVER SOLVED THAT MYSTERY!



THE END



BATMAN

HA HA DO THE FOOLS
REALLY BELIEVE THEY
CAN COMBAT THE
STRENGTH OF OUR
GIANT HAND?

IT REACHED FROM THE
SKY LIKE A HAND OF
DEATH A COLossal
HAND OF ABSOLUTE
STRENGTH THAT CRUSHED
ALL IT TOUCHED &
BATMAN AND ROBIN
COULD DO NOTHING TO
STOP ITS POWER UNTIL
THEY FINALLY DISCOVERED
THE PURPOSE OF

the **HAND**
from **NOWHERE**

BOB
KANE



GIANT BATMAN



ONE MORNING AS BATMAN AND ROBIN "DROPPED IN AT THE HEAD-QUARTERS."

"A WORKMAN AT THE GOTHAM ZINC WORKS JUST PHONED HE SAID A GIANT HAND-- HOLDING TWO ALIENS IN IT-- JUST APPEARED IN THE SKY! BLAH LAST YEAR 'T WAS 'FLYING SAUCERS'-- NOW IT'S 'G ANT HANDS'."

"RELAX COMMISSIONER ROBIN AND I WILL GIVE THIS PRANKSTER A 'TERN LECTURE."



BUT ON ARRIVING AT THE ZINC WORKS,

HOLY SMOKE 'THE GUY WASN'T KIDDING! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT HAND!"

"GREAT SCOTT THE HAND'S CRUSHED THAT ROOF AS THOUGH IT WERE PAPER!"



"LOOK! IT'S SEIZING SOME ZINC."

"THOSE TWO ALIENS LOOKING ON-- THEY MUST CONTROL THE HAND! IF WE CAN CAPTURE THE ALIENS MAYBE WE CAN FORCE THEM TO STOP THE HAND."



"THANKS TO OUR LANGUAGE SCRAMBLERS THAT INSTANTLY TRANSLATE ANY LANGUAGE, INCLUDING OURS, TO ALL EARS WITHIN HEARING RANGE-- WE KNOW WHAT THOSE EARTH INGS ARE PLANNING TO GNAWL-- STOP THEM!"



"GNAWL-- THE COME SALL AND DISTURB LOUPLY THA'S X-F M-DE FA-ER EGGHAR"



"GNAWL!"



GIANT BATMAN



DESPERATELY BATMAN TRIES TO FIGHT
BUT THE SUN IS EFFECT OF THE
TERRIBLE BLOW AS HE SEES

THE HAND-- ABOUT TO
HIT ROBIN! GOT TO SAVE
HIM BUT AM TOO
WEAK TO GET UP
THIS BARREL.



SUMMONING UP HIS STRENGTH BATMAN DRIVES
HIS FEET AT THE BARREL, AND...

IT WORKED



BAH WHY SHOULD WE-- WHO CONTROL THE
GIANT SHARLS OF OUR WORLD WASTE
PRECIOUS TIME ON THE PUNY PEOPLE OF
THIS WORLD?

TRUE BESIDES, WE ALREADY HAVE
THE FIRST OF THE MATERIALS
WE NEED LET US RETURN TO
OUR OWN DIMENSION!



ABRUPTLY AS THE ALIENS STEP INTO THE GIANT
HAND IT BEGINS TO GLOW WITH TERRIBLE
INTENSITY

UNNNN TY SO
BRIGHT-- I
CAN'T SEE

GREAT SQUITT NOT EVEN
DARK SUN GLASSES
COULD SHUT OUT THAT
GLARE!



THEN THEY ALL STEP INTO THE HAND AND
THE HAND BEGINS TO GLOW

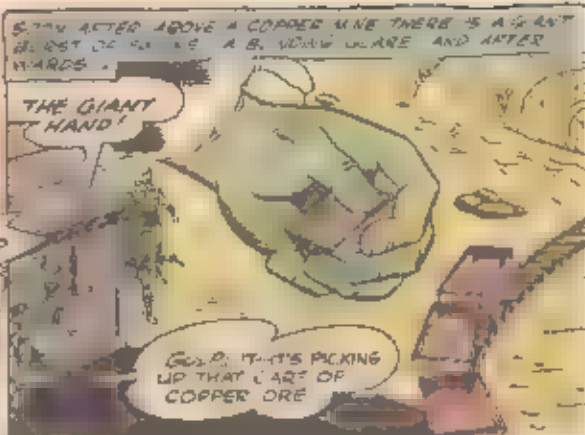
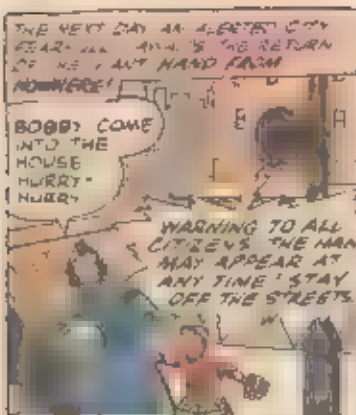
GONE BACK TO
ANOTHER DIMENSION
GOSH BATMAN
WHAT DO THOSE
ALIENS WANT
MATERIALS FOR?

I DON'T KNOW
ROBIN-- BUT I
DO KNOW THEY
NEED MORE
MATERIALS FROM
OUR WORLD. THEY'LL
BE BACK, ROBIN--
THEY'LL BE BACK!





GIANT BATMAN



THAT NIGHT, BATMAN SPEAKS AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE SCIENTISTS

THE PATTERN IS CLEAR NOW. THUS FAR THE ALIENS HAVE OPENED A SMALL HOLE IN OUR DIMENSION THAT CAN ONLY ADMIT THE HAND OF A GIANT GNARL - SO THEY ARE RAIDING US FOR RAW MATERIALS THEY NEED FOR A MORE POWERFUL DIMENSIONAL TRANSMITTER.

"A TRANSMITTER THAT WILL OPEN A LARGER HOLE - SO THAT AN ARMY OF GIANT GNARLS THEY CONTROL CAN PASS THROUGH - AND INVADE OUR WORLD!"

THE NEXT DAY AS THE BAT PLANE SCROOLS THE SKIES...

GOSH, BATMAN-- THE ALIENS HAVE TAKEN ZINC-- COPPER-- PLATINUM! WHAT WILL THEY GO FOR NEXT?

HERE COMES YOUR ANSWER NOW, ROBIN!

SOON AFTER...

TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS, ROBIN-- I'M GOING TO GET THE LOOP OF CHAIN READY!

LOOK GNARL-- GO UP AND CRUSH THAT FLYING MACHINE!

CALLING BAT PLANE HAND HAS APPEARED AT PIER 14-- IS BELKING CARGO OF TIN FROM BOLIVIAN LINER!

AS HE TRIES TO SWAT A MOSQUITO, THE GIANT HAND SLAPS AT THE BAT PLANE, BUT...

PHWEE! THAT ALMOST SLAPPED US OUT OF THE SKY!

YES-- BUT NOW THAT WE'RE ABOVE THE HAND AS WE WANTED, I CAN GO OUT ON THE ROPE LADDER!

SWIFTLY - HE A REEL LASSO - A DOZ OF CARS - SCROO! BY BATMAN ARE NO MORE FASTER

IT'S HOOKED ON, ROBIN! THE INSTANT I GET INTO THE PLANE-- GET GOING!



GIANT BATMAN



INSTANTLY LATER ROBIN PLOTS THE BAT-PLANE AND NO AND AROUND THE HAND--AS GRAY HANDS ABOUT TO FROM A GUN

LET'S HOPE THE CHAIN HOLDS ROBIN!



BUT AS THE GARGANTUAN HAND FEELS ITS FINGERS

GREAT SCOTT THE CHAIN SNAPPED LIKE ROTTEN STRINGS!



REACHING OUT THE HAND FEELS THE CHAIN TEARING FROM THE BAT-PLANE--AND SNAPS IT LIKE A WHIP

GOOD HEAVENS. IF THE HAND GETS A CHANCE TO SNAP THE CHAIN AGAIN THE BAT-PLANE WILL CRACK APART FROM THE STRAIN I'VE GOT TO JETTISON THE GUN FAST



BATMAN'S PULSE WORKS JUST IN THE 45...

WE'RE FREE. BUT WE'D BETTER KEEP GOING--BEFORE THE HAND SNATCHES AT THE BAT-PLANE!



SOON AFTER... OKAY, BATMAN--NOW WHAT?

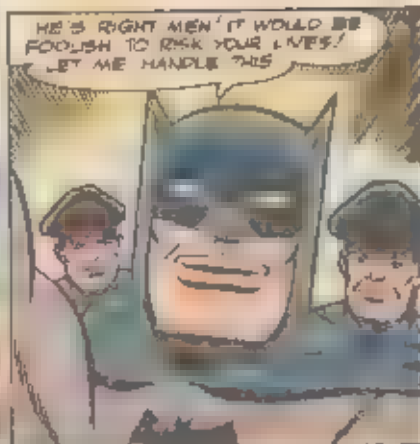
WE CAN'T DO ANY GOOD UP HERE ANY MORE SO WE MIGHT AS WELL LAND, AND HOPE THE POLICE CAN ANNOY OUT THE ALIENS WITH THEIR GAS GUNS





LATER THE FOOLS DO THEY REALLY BELIEVE THEY CAN USE THEIR GAS GUNS AGAINST US BEFORE OUR GWAAG SWASHES THEM?

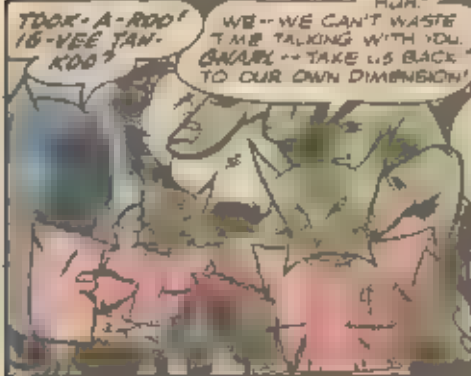
HMM



HE'S RIGHT MEN! IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO RISK YOUR LIVES! LET ME HANDLE THIS

WARNY AN ALIEN DRAWS HIS FLAME PISTOL BUT BATMAN ONLY SPEAKS!

HMM?



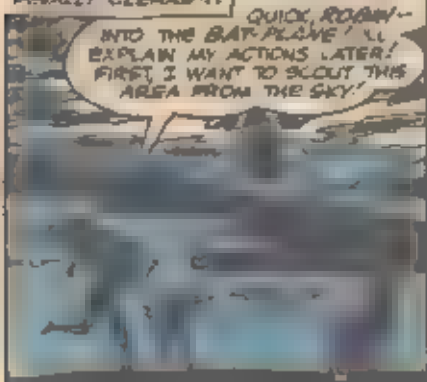
TOOK-A-ROO! IS-VEE TAN-KOO?

WE--WE CAN'T WASTE TIME TALKING WITH YOU. GWAAG-- TAKE US BACK TO OUR OWN DIMENSION!

ON SEIZING THE ALIENS AND THE TIN, THE HAND AGAIN STARTS TO GLOW BRIGHTLY.

THAT'S IT. TURN YOUR BACK ON THE GLOW. SHADE YOUR EYES SO THAT THEY'RE NOT BLINDED BY THE GLARE AND WE'LL BE ABLE TO SEE QUICKER WHEN THE GLOW STOPS

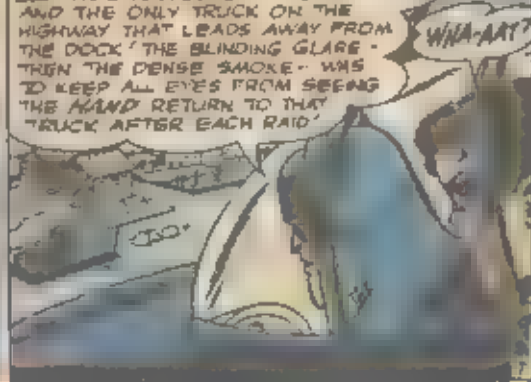
SOON AFTER, THERE IS A SUDDEN RIFT OF DENSE SMOKE--AND WHEN IT FINALLY CLEARS--



QUICK, ROOM-- INTO THE BAT-CAVE! I'LL EXPLAIN MY ACTIONS LATER! FIRST, I WANT TO SCOUT THIS AREA FROM THE SKY!

MOMENTS LATER...

JUST AS I SUSPECTED--A BIG TRUCK-- AND THE ONLY TRUCK ON THE HIGHWAY THAT LEADS AWAY FROM THE DOCK--THE BLINDING GLARE-- THEN THE DENSE SMOKE-- WAS TO KEEP ALL EYES FROM SEEING THE HAND RETURN TO THAT TRUCK AFTER EACH RAID!



WHA-AAT?



ROBIN, HOW COULD ALIENS FROM ANOTHER WORLD WHO HAVE NEVER ENCOUNTERED A GAS GUN BEFORE KNOW THE POLICE HAD GAS GUNS?

THEY COULDN'T KNOW

EXACTLY THAT'S WHY I THEN SPOKE TO THEM IN ESPERANTO-- TO TEST THEIR "LANGUAGE-SCRAMBLERS" THAT ARE SUPPOSED TO TRANSLATE ANY LANGUAGE

SURE YOU SAID "LOOK CAN'T YOU SEE IT?" IF THEY'D UNDERSTOOD, THEY'D HAVE INSTINCTIVELY TURNED TO LOOK ABOUT THEM FOR DANGER-- BUT THEY DIDN'T

IF THEY COULD RECOGNIZE GAS GUNS-- AND THEIR "LANGUAGE-SCRAMBLERS" DON'T WORK-- THAT MEANS THOSE "ALIENS" ARE FAKES! THE WHOLE THING WAS A HOAX!

RIGHT! LOOK, ROBIN-- THE TRUCK'S HEADING FOR THAT BARN-- THEIR HIDEOUT!

INSIDE THE HIDEOUT WANTS THAT RENEGADE SCIENTIST WHOM BATMAN HAS OFTEN HELPED SUPERMAN COMBAT "LUTHOR"

WELL, BOSS, I'M GLAD I'M FINISHED WORKING THE CONTROLS OF THE "HAND" YOU INVENTED THAT WAS OUR LAST JOB

YES-- THE "ALIENS" WILL NEVER APPEAR AGAIN AND PEOPLE WILL THINK SOMETHING HAPPENED TO OUR TRANSMITTER. THEY'LL BE SO RELIEVED THEY'LL NEVER SUSPECT THEY WERE HOAXED!

AND THEY WON'T THINK TWICE ABOUT THE \$2,000,000 WORTH OF PLATINUM WE GOT

ONLY BECAUSE I HAD YOU STEAL ORDINARY ZINC AND COPPER FIRST-- AND THEN WORTHLESS TIN. AFTER WE GOT THE PRECIOUS PLATINUM THAT'S WHY THE POLICE WILL NEVER SUSPECT IT WAS THE PLATINUM WE WERE AFTER ALL THE TIME

TOO BAD YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP IT LUTHOR

BATMAN AND ROBIN



FROM *BATMAN* NO. 118,
SEPT. 1958

IT STARTED OUT AS A ROUTINE MURDER CASE, BUT IT BECAME THE MOST CRUCIAL TRIAL BATMAN EVER FACED - FOR THE DEFENDANT PROVED TO BE...

**"THE MAN WHO COULDN'T
BE TRIED TWICE!"**

HA, HA. YOU DON'T KNOW
IT YET, BATMAN, BUT
YOUR APPEARANCE AT
THIS TRIAL WILL SIGNAL
THE END OF YOUR
CAREER.

Daily GLOBE WYLER MURDER TRIAL STARTS TODAY

**BATMAN
KEY WITNESS
FOR DEFENSE**

IN GOTHAM CITY THE MURDER TRIAL OF JAMES REE NEWS, JR., THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, TELLS HIS FIRST WITNESS.

MR. DAVID DIAL, AS OWNER OF THE *ALL STAR CIRCUS*, YOU KNOW THE ACCUSED JAMES REE?

LEE WAS HALF OF THE TRAPEZE TEAM OF LEE AND WYLER UNTIL WYLER DECIDED TO DO A SOLO ACT. LEE SWORE HE'D GET EVEN WITH WYLER FOR KICKING HIM OUT.

THE STORIES OF IT WITNESS—MILLY KEYES, NEWS COLUMNIST.

MR. KEYES, PLEASE TELL THE JURY WHAT HAPPENED ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 5TH.

WELL, AFTER HIS ACT, WYLER'S HABIT WAS TO GO TO HIS TRAILER TO PAINT. THAT WAS WYLER'S HOBBY. PAINTING. AWHILE LATER, I HEARD A SHOT FROM HIS TRAILER.



"I'VE LED TO A POLICEMAN AND WHEN WE ENTERED
WATER TRAILER THE PLACE SHOWED SIGNS OF A
TERRIFIC STRUGGLE."

"YES YOU
MURDERED
HIM."

"NO I DIDN'T! I HEARD
A SHOT FOUND HIM ON THE FLOOR! I WAS
TRYING TO LIFT HIM TO THE COUCH
WHEN YOU CAME IN!"

THE STATE NEXT WENT TO DR. FORBES
OF THE POLICE LAB. REPORTS:

DR. FORBES:
JUST WHAT
IS A
**PARAFFIN
TEST?**

WHEN A PERSON
FIRES A REVOLVER
GAS PRESSURE
TATTOOES HIS GUN
HAND WITH INVISIBLE
SPELLS OF GUN
POWDER.

UPON LEE'S ARREST TOOK
A WILD CAST OF HIS HAND!
THE PHYSICAL
REACTION ON
THE LAST
SHOWED THAT
LEE HAD
FIRED A
GUN.

YES A
GUN THE
**MURDER
GUN**

NOW THE 2 STO MANS LAWYER TAKES
THE DEFENSE
NOW CALLS ITS
FIRST AND ONLY
WITNESS
BATMAN!

BATMAN!
NOW!

"THIS
OUGHTA BE
EXCITING!"

BATMAN
WILL YOU
TELL THE
JURY WHAT
YOU TOLD
ME?

ON THAT FATEFUL
NIGHT WATER
CALLED ME AT
POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
HE SAID HE HAD
SOMETHING IMPORTANT
TO TELL ME AND
THAT HE WANTED
PROTECTION OR HE
WOULD BE
MURDERED.

"UPON REACHING THE CIRCUS GROUNDS WE SPOTTED
LEE AND REMEMBERED LEE'S THREATS TO WYLER.
SO WE ASSUMED WYLER WANTED PROTECTION
FROM LEE."

SO FAR WE'VE TRAILED LEE TO EVERY
CONCESSION IT SEEMS TO ME **ROMAN**,
AS IF HE'S JUST KILLING TIME BEFORE
HE VISITS WYLER."

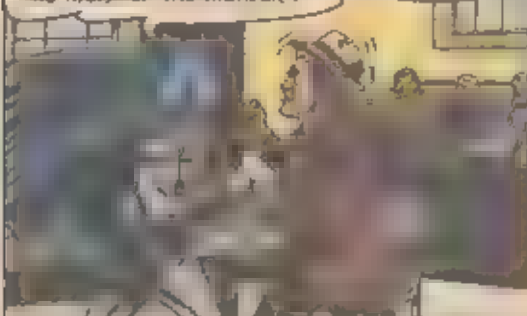
BUT WE LOST LEE IN
THE CROWD AND LEARNED
LATER OF HIS ARREST.
AFTER REVIEWING THE
FACTS, HOWEVER, I WAS
CONVINCED OF LEE'S
INNOCENCE AND CAN
PROVE IT NOW BY
WRESTLING
WITH THE ACCUSED
MAN."

WRESTLING?
... HERE'S
HIGHLY
REGULAR...
BUT IF I WILL
SERVE THE
ENDS OF
JUSTICE THE
COURT HAS NO
OBJECTIONS."



THIS FOLLOWS THE MOST FANTASTIC DECEASE EVER ESTABLISHED IN A COURTROOM.

PRETEND I'M WYLER STRUGGLING WITH LEE 'HE IS WEARING HERE THE SAME CLOTHES HE WORE ON THE NIGHT OF THE MURDER.



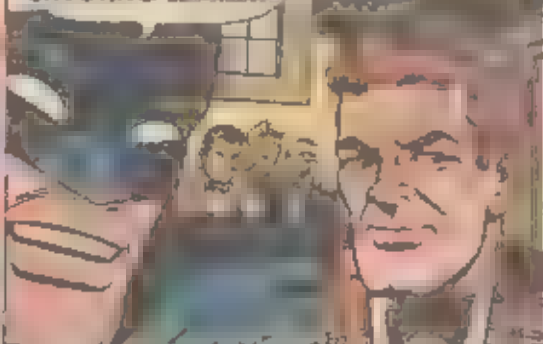
ACCORDING TO THE CLOWN'S TESTIMONY, HE AND THE POLICE CAME UPON LEE JUST AS HIS STRUGGLE WITH WYLER WAS ENDING.



IF LEE HAD BEEN THE ONE WHO STRUGGLED WITH WYLER HIS HAT WOULD HAVE FALLEN OFF AND BEEN CRUSHED DURING THE FIGHT. BUT WHEN THE POLICE BURST IN LEE'S HAT WAS STILL ON HIS HEAD, UNDAMAGED!



AS FOR THE PARAFFIN TEST IT PROVED LEE FIRED A GUN - BUT NOT THE MURDER GUN. ONLY A FEW MINUTES EARLIER I'D SEEN LEE FIRING A GUN AT A SHOOTING RANGE.



BATMAN'S TESTIMONY WORKS THE PROBLEM IN A CASE AND THE JURY VERT SWIFT.

WE, THE JURY, FIND THE DEFENDANT - NOT GUILTY!



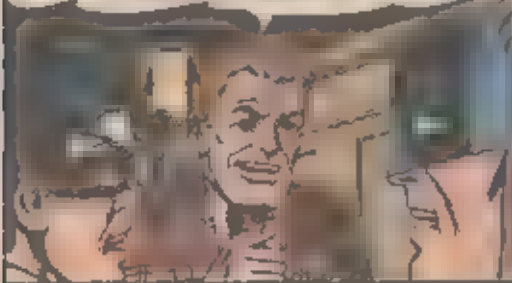
SUDDENLY MY KING LAUGHTER SHOCKS THE COURTROOM.

HA, HA... I FOOLED ALL OF YOU - EVEN YOU BATMAN! I DID KILL WYLER. I'M GUILTY YOU UNDERSTAND... GUILTY! HA, HA, HA!





I SPOTTED YOU FOLLOWING ME THAT NIGHT, SO I
WORKED OUT A PLAN: I FIRED THAT GUN AT THE
TARGET RANGE FOR A PARAFIN TEST ALDI! AFTER
SHOOTING WYLER, I OVERTURNED FURNITURE TO
MAKE IT APPEAR WE'D BEEN STRUGGLING.



YOU SEE, I COUNTED ON YOUR DETECTIVE
WORK. BATMAN! NOW, THANKS TO YOU I'M
FREE BECAUSE A MAN CAN'T BE TRIED
TWICE FOR THE SAME CRIME...
HA, HA, HA!



BEFORE LONG, THE STUNNING NEWS SWEEPS THE COUNTRY LIKE A PRADDER FIRE

TONIGHT, A NOTION IS
WONDERING... IS BATMAN
SLIPPING?



GOSH, I SNIFF! I NEVER
THOUGHT BATMAN WOULD
LET A MURDERER
OUTSMART HIM.



HOW COULD
BATMAN HAVE
BEEN SO WRONG?
THIS IS TERRIBLE...
TERRIBLE



MEANWHILE IN THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES OF WEALTHY
BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WIFE DIANE GRAYSON, THE TWO
CRIMEFIGHTERS PONDER BATMAN'S FATAL
BLUNDER...

BRUCE—PLEASE...
YOU'VE GOT TO
EAT SOMETHING

I WAS SURE THAT LEE WAS
INNOCENT DICK... IN FACT, I
STILL AM! EVERY INSTINCT
TELLS ME I'M RIGHT... I
KNOW I'M RIGHT



YET... IF I AM RIGHT AND LEE IS
INNOCENT, WHY DOES HE PRETEND TO
BE GUILTY? INTO YOUR COSTUME, DICK...
WE'VE GOT TO SETTLE THIS ONCE
AND FOR ALL.





GIANT BATMAN



LATER AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** APPROACH THE VICTIM'S TRAILER

LOOK! A MAN LEAVING THE MURDER SCENE, HE'S DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A CLOWN

HE'S GOT SOMETHING UNDER HIS ARM LET'S SEE WHAT HE WANTED SO BADLY



SWIFTLY, THE CAPED MAJOR HIDES HIMSELF IN THE R GUARDY

A ROLLED-UP PAINTING CANVAS SO THAT'S WHAT YOU STOLE FROM WYLER'S TRAILER!



DESPERATELY, THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE SEEKS A WAY OF ESCAPE

IF I CAN JUST GET TO THE MERRY GO-ROUND SWITH IN TIME



REALIZING THE SWITH, HE STARTS THE CAROUSEL TURNING IN A SUDDEN MOVEMENT BURLS HIS TWO PURSUERS OFF

I CAN'T RISK TRYING TO RECOVER THE PAINTING NOW... AND ONCE **BATMAN** SEES IT, HE'LL BE AFTER ME! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE, FAST!



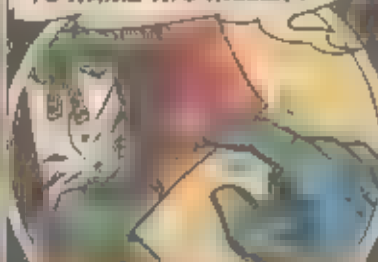
THOUGH HE'S GLADLY HAS MOMENTARILY ESCAPED, **BATMAN** STILL HAS THE PAINTING

A PAINTING OF KEYS, THE CLOWN

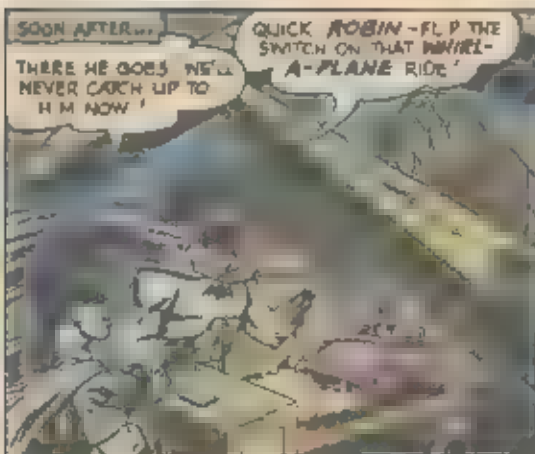
THE PAINTING WYLER WAS FINISHING, WHEN HE WAS MURDERED! THE KILLER MUST'VE JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING ABOUT THE PAINTING THAT COULD EXPOSE HIS IDENTITY



NOTICE THE "Q" PAINTER'S OFTEN USE ODD SYMBOLS AS THEIR SIGNATURES... BUT WYLER PAINTED THIS FOR ANOTHER REASON -- **TO NAME HIS KILLER!**



WYLER'S "Q" DENIES HE MURDERED? CAN YOU GUESS?



SOON AFTER...

THERE HE GOES. WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP TO HIM NOW!

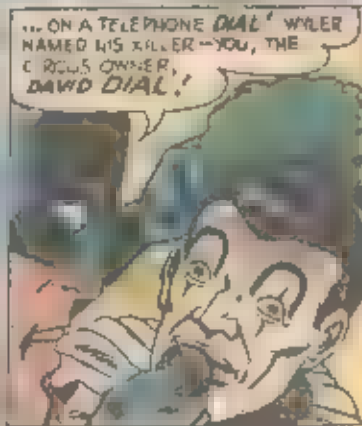
QUICK, ROBIN - FLIP THE SWITCH ON THAT WHEEL-A-PLANE RIDE!



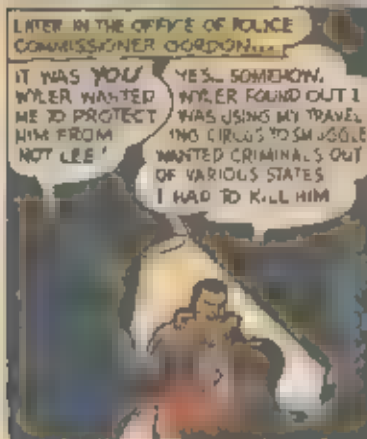
MADE IT!



IT'S ALL OVER. I DEDUCED THE "MINUS Q" REFERRED TO THE ONE PLACE WHERE EVERY LETTER IN THE ALPHABET'S USED EXCEPT Q...



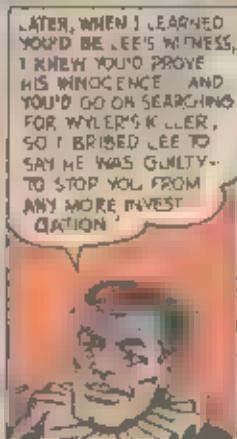
... ON A TELEPHONE DIAL! WYLER NAMED HIS KILLER - YOU, THE CIRCUS OWNER, DAVID DIAL!



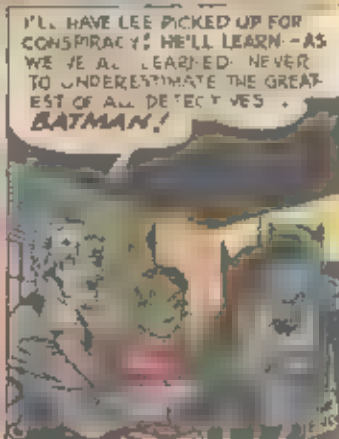
LATER IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...

IT WAS YOU, WYLER WANTED ME TO PROTECT HIM FROM NOT LEE!

YES... SOMEHOW, WYLER FOUND OUT I WAS USING MY TRAVELING CIRCUS TO SMUGGLE WANTED CRIMINALS OUT OF VARIOUS STATES. I HAD TO KILL HIM.



LATER, WHEN I LEARNED YOU'D BE LEE'S WITNESS, I KNEW YOU'D PROVE HIS INNOCENCE - AND YOU'D GO ON SEARCHING FOR WYLER'S KILLER, SO I BRIBED LEE TO SAY HE WAS GUILTY - TO STOP YOU FROM ANY MORE INVESTIGATION!



I'LL HAVE LEE PICKED UP FOR CONSPIRACY! WE'LL LEARN - AS WE'VE ALREADY LEARNED - NEVER TO UNDERESTIMATE THE GREAT-EST OF ALL DETECTIVES - **BATMAN!**



DEEP DOWN HE WAS THE MANDRILL.
 WAS THE BAT CAVE THE ONE
 THAT TO BATMAN'S SECRET
 IDENTITY OF THE BAT CAVE
 MURDER OF THE BAT CAVE
 AND THE BATMAN MANDRILL
 THAT TO ARREST HER HE MAY
 WELL MEAN THE END OF HIS
 LARGEST THE LARGEST CRIME
 BUSTER GRIMLY PURSUES THE
 MANDRILL OF

THE BODY IN THE BAT-CAVE

THE BAT CAVE NO. 2
 12 37 2

ROBIN, SOMEWHERE THERE'S
 A KILLER IN THE BAT-CAVE
 AND I'VE GOT TO ARREST
 HIM. EVEN IF HE THREATENS
 TO EXPOSE MY SECRET
 IDENTITY!

INITIAL AS EXACTLY BRUCE WAYNE
 BUT IS YOUNG MAN OF THE DAYS IF
 PREPARE TO CHANGE THEIR THEIR
 IDENTITIES

LET'S HEAD DOWN TO THE
 BAT-CAVE, WITH TIME
 TO START OUR USUAL
 PATROL

DON'T
 BE HAD
 WILL
 BRUCE!

NEXT UNTIL THEY DON'T THEIR IDENTITIES, IT COMES
 AND A LOT OF HERSE THE BAT CAVE
 TWO BLOODS NEW

A BODY!



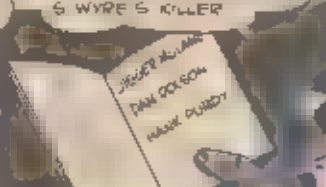
THERE'S A B2 168 ON HIS FOREHEAD. SUMES 'T CLUBBED HIM. HE WAS MURDERED RIGHT HERE & HE **BAT-CAVE** UNDER JOKER MANSION.

AND, AND WHOEVER KILLED HIM NOW KNOWS YOU'RE GET IDENTITY.

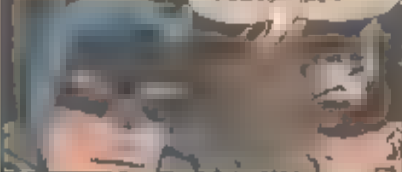
I'VE SEEN HIS MAN'S FACE IN OUR FILES. HE WAS ALICE. WYRE THE ELECTRONICS GEEK'S WHO **DIED** CRIMINAL.

YES WYRE'S BUSINESS WAS SELLING HIS INVENTIONS TO THE UNDERWORLD.

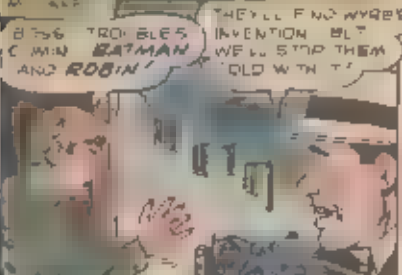
ON SEARCHING THE DEAD MAN'S POCKET & **BATMAN** HAD A BOOK THIS CONTAINS THE NAMES OF WYRE'S CRIMINAL CLIENTS. THE LAST PAGE HAS THE NAMES OF HIS MOST RECENT CUSTOMERS. I'VE A HUNCH ONE OF THESE THREE MEN IS WYRE'S KILLER.



WYRE MAY HAVE WORKED OUT SOME INVENTION TO LOCATE THE **BAT-CAVE**, AND TO DO HIS CUSTOMER WITH HIM. NOW IT'S MY DUTY TO FIND WYRE'S KILLER. EVEN THOUGH IT MEANS THE EXPOSURE OF MY SECRET IDENTITY.



BUT AFTER THE FLEET **BATMOBILE** IS IN THE ROADS AND THE FBI IS UP TO THE EYES IN THE STREET, I'VE GOT TO FIND WYRE'S INVENTION. BUT WE'LL STOP THEM. **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**.



INSIDE THE **BATMOBILE** WHEELS OUT A BRIDGE.



SO THAT'S THE ELECTRONIC GADGET WYRE SOLD JIGGER. A MACHINE THAT CAN STALL CAR MOTORS. MIGHTY HANDY AGAINST POLICE CARS!

WILL NEVER CATCH UP WITH JIGGER NOW.

MAYBE WE CAN -- WITH THAT MECHANIC'S TROLLEY!





LIKE A RUNAWAY TOBOGGAN THE TROLLEY SHOOTS DOWN A STEEP HILL.

JIGGER WAS DRIVING DOWN A DEAD END STREET SO HE'LL HAVE TO TURN THAT CORNER BELOW. WE'LL TAKE THIS SHORT CUT AND HEAD HIM OFF.



OKEY ROBIN-- GET READY TO JUMP!

HUH?



YOU'RE IN AN AWFUL HURRY TO GET NO PLACE.

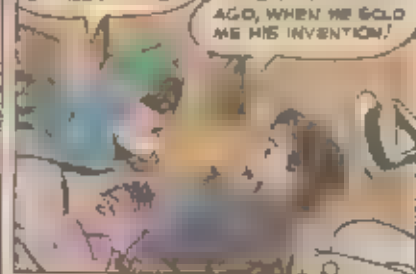
THE JIG IS UP, JIGGER.



AS THE CAR BRAKES TO A HALT.

JIGGER M... ARRESTING YOU FOR THE MURDER OF ALEC WYRE.

WYRE? I DON'T EVEN KNOW HE WAS DEAD! THE LAST TIME I SAW WYRE WAS A WEEK AGO, WHEN HE SOLD ME HIS INVENTION!

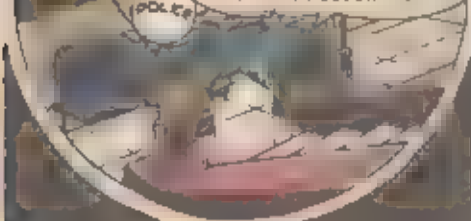


LATER WHERE A PETTY NOODLEMAN TAKES A ROLLIE THROUGH SECLUDED ALLEYSWAYS.

AFTER BATMAN AILS THE GANGSTERS.

HOW DO WE KNOW JIGGER SN'T LYING?

FRED KILLED WYRE HE WOULD HAVE THREATENED TO EXPOSE MY SECRET IDENTITY WHEN I ARRESTED HIM. WYRE'S KILLER HAS TO BE ONE OF THE OTHER TWO NAMES ON THE LIST. WE'LL TRY DAN DOLSON NEXT.



THAT MAN IS A MEMBER OF DOLSON'S GANG. FROM THE WAY HE'S HURRYING HE MUST BE MEETING THE GANG SOMEWHERE TO PULL A ROBBERY!





GIANT BATMAN



THE TRAIL LEADS TO A BANK WHERE THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ARRIVE IN TIME TO SEE A FANTASTIC OCCURRENCE

GREAT SCOTT! WYRE SOLD DOLSON A MACHINE THAT MAKES ARTIFICIAL LIGHTNING BOLTS!

BOSS THERE'S **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! THEY'RE WISE TO US



GET BACK, ROBIN!



AS THE LIGHTNING GLA, FRBS AGAIN **BATMAN** SAVES IT A SACK FROM AL A CRACK IN THE AIR AND HIS



THE BACK RIPS TO CHARGE SOMING O TA STING AND SPRAY OF GARD

OWW!

YIP!



BATMAN, FROM THE WAY YOU PUT THEM TO SLEEP, THEY OUGHT TO RE-NAME YOU THE **SANDMAN**!



DOLSON I'M ARRESTING YOU FOR THE MURDER OF ALEC WYRE

MURDER? NO! **BATMAN**, I AM TRYING TO PULL THIS BANK JOB BUT NOT MURDER I NEVER MURDERED WYRE





GIANT BATMAN



ONCE AGAIN BANDITS ARE JAILED- AND ONCE AGAIN, **BATMAN** FACES AN UNSOLVED MYSTERY.

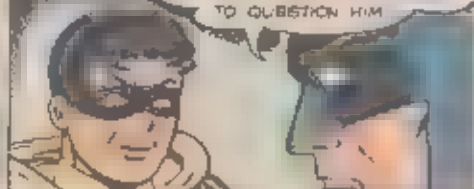
DOLSON DIDN'T THREATEN TO EXPOSE YOU, EITHER- SO HE COULDN'T HAVE KILLED WYRE.

THAT LEAVES ONLY ONE NAME - MANK PURDY. HE HAS TO BE THE MURDERER- AND THE ONE MAN WHO KNOWS MY SECRET IDENTITY!



PURDY? HE'S THAT GANGSTER FROM OUT OF TOWN!

YES. WHEN I HEARD THAT HE CHECKED IN AT A HOTEL HERE, I SENT HIM A BOX CONTAINING A **BAT**-- AS A WARNING TO LEAVE GOTHAM CITY. HE'S BACK IN HIS HOME TOWN NOW, SO WE'LL HAVE TO GO THERE TO QUESTION HIM.

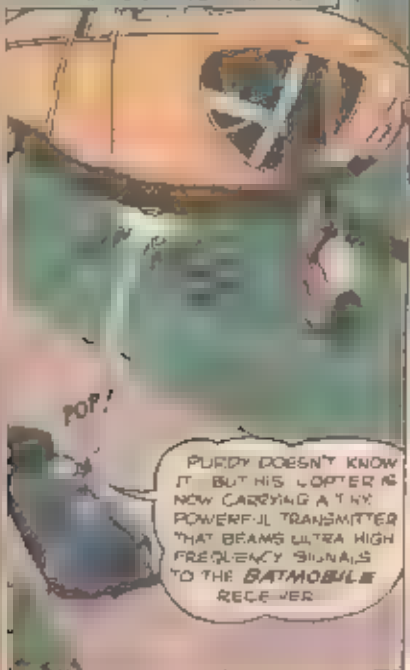


AS THE **BATMOBILE** APPROACHES, ONLY A FEW FEET AWAY, HEAR THE HELICOPTER.

LOOK, PURDY'S HELICOPTER! HE MUST HAVE BEEN TIPPED OFF ABOUT OUR BEING ON THE RAIL OF WYRE'S CUSTOMERS. AND NOW HE'S TRYING TO MAKE A GETAWAY.



SWIFTLY, **BATMAN** TAKES AN "ODD WEAPON" HE PLACES IT ON THE...



THE SIGNALS ARE COMING IN STRONG NOW. HE'S USING THAT ABANDONED OLD FIREHOUSE AS HIS COPTER'S HANGAR! LET'S GO IN AND GET HIM.



MOMENTS LATER

YOU!

PURDY DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT HIS COPTER IS NOW CARRYING A VERY POWERFUL TRANSMITTER THAT BEAMS ULTRA-HIGH FREQUENCY SIGNALS TO THE **BATMOBILE** RECEIVER.



GIANT BATMAN



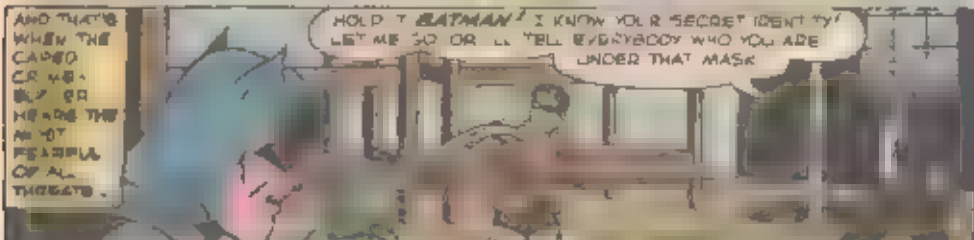
EVEN AS THE FIRE HOSE WHISTLES AT THEM, BATMAN WHIPS UP THE NOZZLE OF A HOSE AND



FRANTICALLY THE TRAPPED CRIMINAL FLEES UPSTAIRS TO THE SLEEPING ACTRESS, BUT



AND THAT'S WHEN THE CAPED CRIMINAL HEARS THE MOST FEARSOME OF ALL THREATS -



ABRUPTLY IN THAT BRIEF MOMENT OF SURPRISE

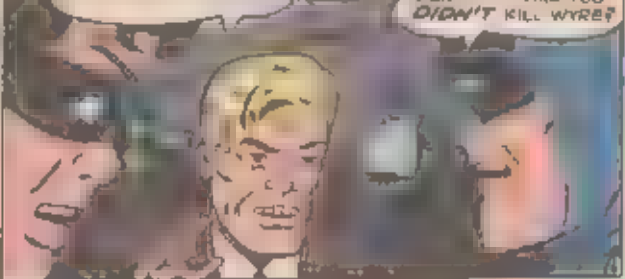


BUT AS CRIMINAL ESCAPES TO THE FIRE ESCAPE'S OR



OH! I REMEMBERED WYRE HAD SOME INVENTION TO EXPOSE YOUR SECRET IDENTITY SO I FIGURED TO STARTLE YOU WITH A BLUFF!

BLUFF? YOU MEAN YOU DON'T KNOW MY SECRET IDENTITY? AND YOU DIDN'T KILL WYRE?





GIANT BATMAN



WYRE DEAD? THE LAST THAT I SAW HIM HE WAS ALIVE TRYING TO GUESS ME AN INVENTION IN MY HOTEL ROOM IN GOTHAM CITY BUT WHEN THAT BAT FLEW OUT OF THE BOX YOU SENT ME I LAMMED FAST, SAVING WYRE IN THE ROOM

THIS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS CAREER **BATMAN** HE WAS DOOMED TO DEFEAT

"I'VE FAILED, **ROBIN**! SOMEWHERE THERE'S A MURDERER--A MURDERER WHO KNOWS MY SECRET IDENTITY-- AND I HAVEN'T BROUGHT HIM TO JUSTICE"



SUDDENLY AS THE **BATMOBILE** NEARBY THE **BAT-CAVE** SEEN, KEY ENTRANCE

LISTEN HIGH FREQUENCY SIGNALS I LEFT THE RECEIVER ON AND THE CLOSER WE GET TO THE **BAT-CAVE**, THE STRONGER THEY BECOME

SOMEBODY'S INSIDE THE **BAT-CAVE**, SENDING OUT SUPER-SONIC SIGNALS IT MUST BE THE KILLER



TAKING THE PORTABLE RECEIVER **BATMAN** RAISES HIS SUPER-SONIC SIGNALS SEARCHING FOR THE RE-EMITTER OF THE **BAT-CAVE**, WHERE

HOLY SMOKE! IT'S COMING FROM THE **BAT-ROOST**!

LOOK **ROBIN**--ONE OF THOSE BATS HAS SOMETHING ATTACHED TO ITS LEG



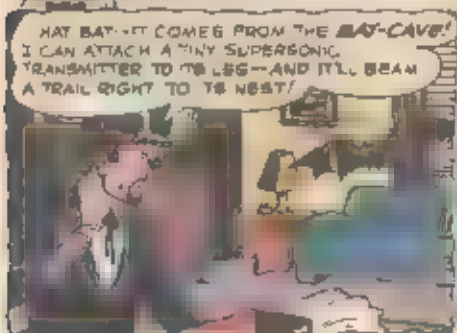
AFTER MEETING THE BAT

NOW I UNDERSTAND, **ROBIN**! NOW I CAN RECONSTRUCT EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED

IT'S A TINY SUPER-SONIC TRANSMITTER, LIKE THE ONE WE HAVE



"WHEN HANK PURDY LEFT WYRE ALONE IN THE HOTEL ROOM WITH THE BAT I SENT PURDY, WYRE GOT AN IDEA..."



HAT BAT--IT COMES FROM THE **BAT-CAVE**! I CAN ATTACH A TINY SUPER-SONIC TRANSMITTER TO ITS LEG--AND IT'LL BEAM A TRAIL RIGHT TO ITS NEST!

"SURE ENOUGH, LIKE A HOMING PIGEON THE BAT GETS AND I'VE BEAMING A SLOW-MOTION TRAIL THAT WYRE FOLLOWED"

THE ENTRANCE TO THE **BAT-CAVE**... AND THAT'S THE WAYNE MANSION NEARBY COULD... COULD **BRUCE WAYNE** BE **BATMAN**? WE'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH



AS WE'VE ENTERED THE BAT-CAVE, HIS FLASHLIGHT DISTURBED THE BATS.

GO AWAY!
GO AWAY!

THE FLASHLIGHT BULB SHATTERED. WE'VE BLUNDERED ABOUT IN THE DARKNESS, SLAMMED HIS HEAD INTO ONE OF THE STALACTITES- STAGGERED AND FELL DEAD!

A CAREFUL SEARCH OF THE STALACTITES CONFIRMS BATMAN'S DEDUCTION.

LOOK, ROBIN--A CHIP. THIS IS WHERE WE'VE HIT HIS HEAD!

GOLLY THEN NOBODY REALLY MURDERED WE'VE HE KILLED HIMSELF! THAT MEANS YOUR SECRET IDENTITY IS STILL A SECRET!

YES, ROBIN. IT WAS A BAT THAT BETRAYED MY SECRET IDENTITY. AND IT WAS A BAT THAT SAVED IT.

NEW "MATCHBOX" MODELS OF THE MONTH.



Lotus Elise



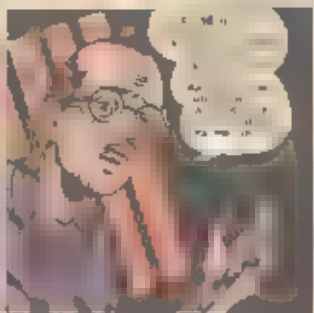
Volvo 1600

From fast wheel racers to heavy duty trucks, "Matchbox" does it all.

Matchbox models are made of die-cast metal and are available in a variety of colors.

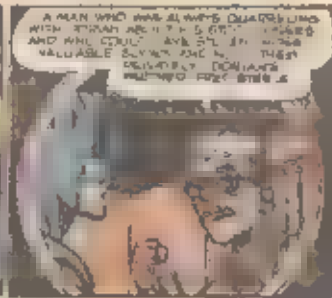
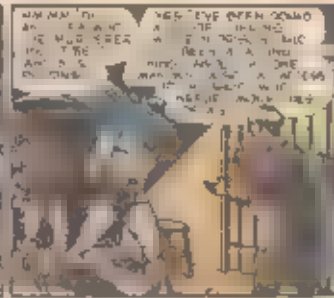
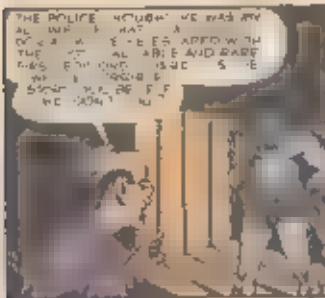
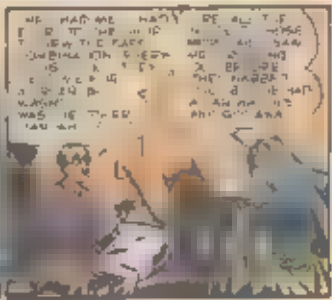
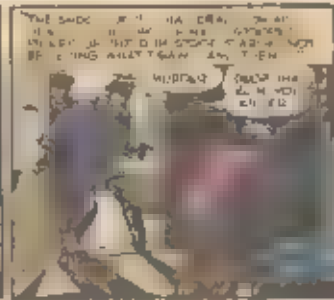
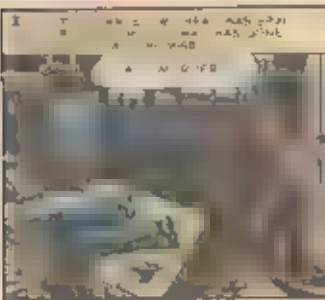
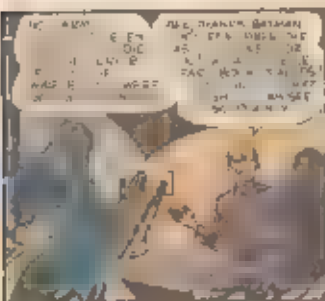
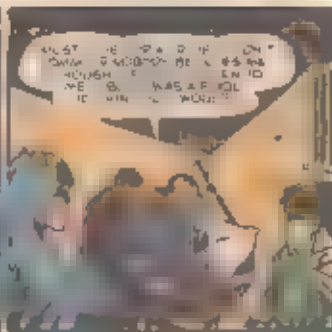
Complete

SUNDAY NEWSPAPER SYNDICATED STORY



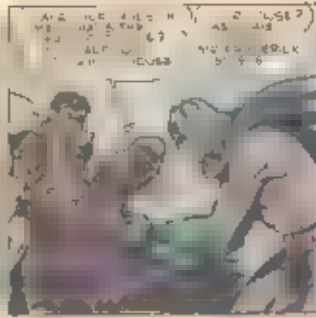
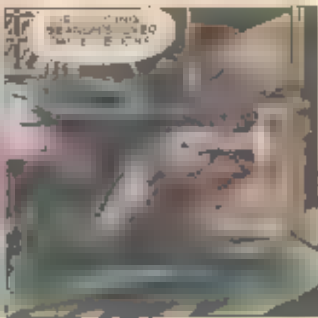
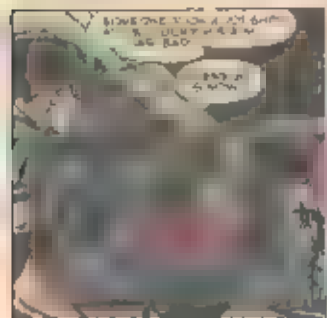
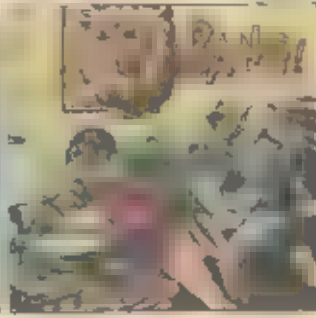
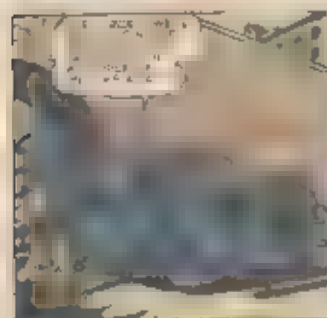
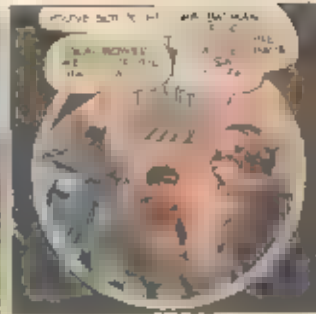
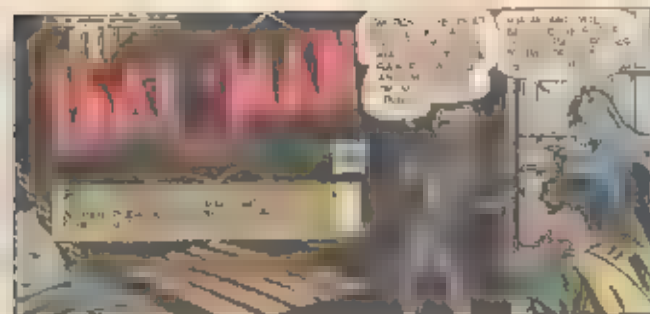


GIANT BATMAN



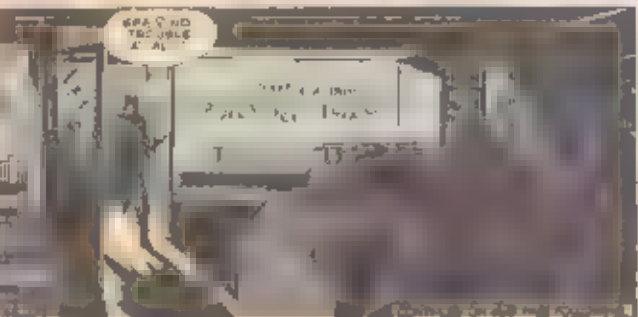
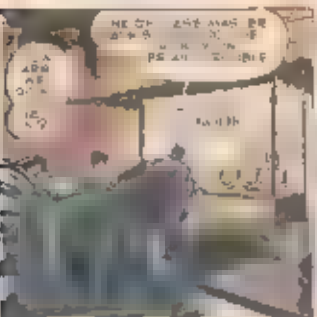
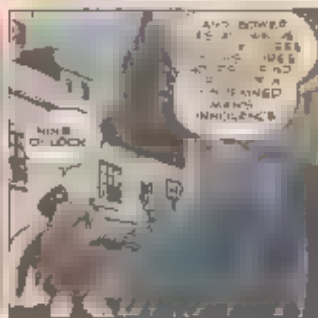
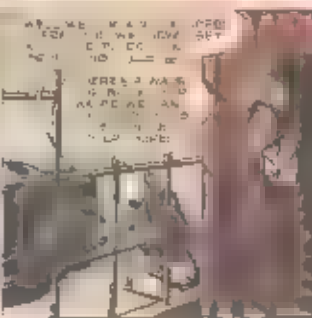
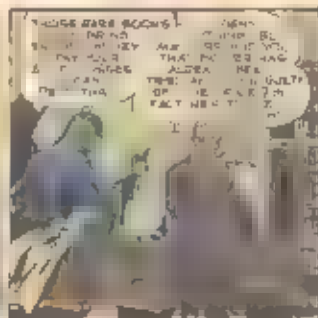
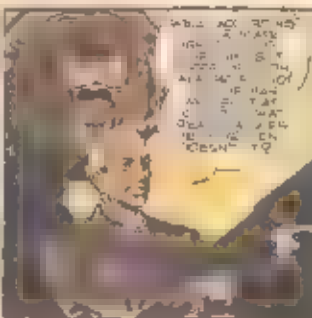


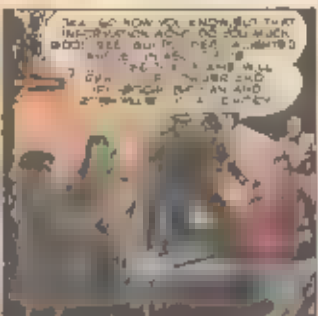
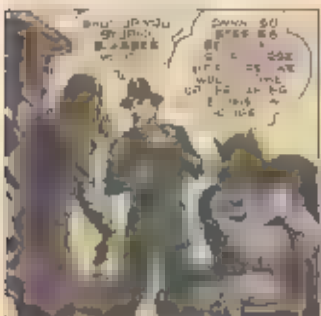
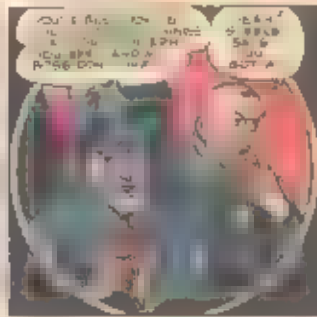
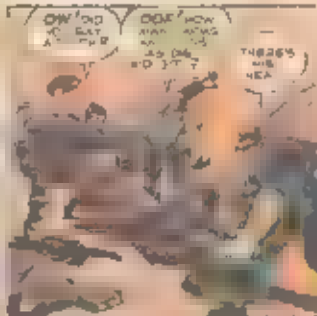
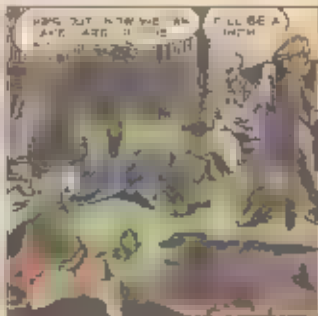
GIANT EATER

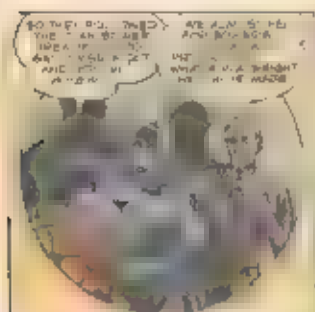
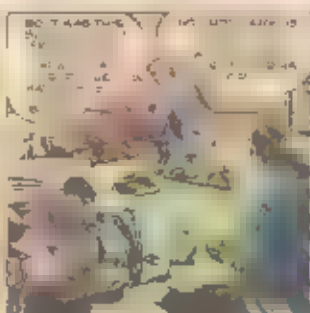
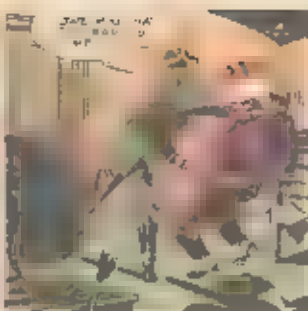




GIANT BATMAN









BATMAN

THEN HE'S
GUILTY---
LIKE THE REST!
AND THEY ALL
SHALL PAY
THE
PENALTY!

DETECTIVE NO 197 JULY 1925.

A NEW CRIME
YOUR HONOR-- THIS
MAY ONCE WRITE A
SONG DEDICATED
TO
THE
BATMAN!

ONE DAY, WITHOUT WARNING,
A NEW TERROR CHILLS THE
POPULACE OF GOTHAM CITY!
MEN WHO BEFRIENDED BATMAN
RUN FOR THEIR LIVES! MEN
WHO PUBLICLY 'COLLECT' BATMAN--
MEN WHO GLOFFED BATMAN--
THESE ARE THE MARKED MEN
OF A STRANGE MELODUS!
EVERYWHERE A STRANGE
VENGEANCE IS DEALT--- BY
THE MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF
THE WRECKER! AND EVERYWHERE,
BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY
WONDER ARE FORCED TO THE
LIMITS OF THEIR COURAGE AND
DARING--- AS THEY COME TO
DEADLY GRIPS WITH

The **LEAGUE**
AGAINST
BATMAN!

JOE
KANE



GIANT BATMAN



ONE DAY IN THE OFFICES AND
FACTORY OF THE
GOTHAM MECHANICAL TOY CO.
MANUFACTURERS OF
BATMAN NOVELTIES

DON'T
ANYONE MOVE!
I'M TAKING OVER!
I-- THE WRECKER!

THE WRECKER?
A NEW CRIMINAL!
HOW SUCH A
BET-UP JUST TO
ROB A SAFE???

Everything
FOR THE
GOTHAM MECHANICAL TOY CO.

THEN BEFORE THE STARTLED EYES OF
THE FRIGHTENED EMPLOYEES

YOU'VE GOT THE
MONEY? OKAY
NOW FOR THE REAL
PURPOSE OF THIS
VISIT! SMASH EVERY-
THING, MEN--
EVERYTHING!
ESPECIALLY THOSE
BATMAN
TOYS!

WHY HE'S
MAD!
MAD!
HE CAN'T GAIN
ANYTHING BY
RUNNING THOSE
TOYS!

AND AS THE WILD FRENZY OF DESTRUCTION
CONTINUES IN THE ADJOINING
FACTORY

NO WONDER HE
CALLS HIMSELF
THE WRECKER!
HE'S MAKING
A SHAMBLES
OUT OF THE
FACTORY!

GOOD GRIEF!
AL THAT
EXPENSIVE
MACHINERY! WE'RE
RUEFUL!

THEN SUDDENLY AN
HOLE APPEARED ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF
GOTHAM CITY

THE REST OF YOU
MAY DESTROY THOSE
STUFF! I'LL PERSONALLY
TAKE CARE OF THIS
BATMAN AND
ROBIN ONE!

MANUFACTURERS OF THE WORLD'S
LARGEST ELECTRIC GUNS

I'VE NEVER
SEEN
ANYTHING LIKE
IT! SHEER,
SAVAGE
DESTRUCTION!



GIANT BATMAN



SHORTLY AFTER, AT TELEVISION STATION
DIRECT ..

WE INTERRUPT OUR
REGULARLY SCHEDULED
TELECAST TO BRING YOU
THIS IMPORTANT BULLETIN:
A NEW CRIMINAL,
WHO CALLS HIMSELF
THE WRECKER, IS
MADLY WREAKING
HAVOC ALL OVER
GOTHAM CITY!

SUDDENLY

WHY -
T'S
THE
**WRECKER
HIMSELF!**

KEEP THOSE
CAMERAS TURNING!
I HAVE AN IMPORTANT
MESSAGE FOR
THE PEOPLE OF
GOTHAM CITY!

I HATE BATMAN!!
HE SENT MY THREE
BROTHERS TO THE
CHAIR! I'LL GET REVENGE!
BUT NOT ONLY ON BATMAN!
ON THOSE, TOO WHO
GLORY IN HIS DEEDS!
I HATE EQUALLY ALL THOSE
WHO WOULD GLORIFY THE
BATMAN! AND I WILL
RUIN THEM!

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE HOME OF
MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD,
DICK GRAYSON

THOSE WHO WOULD
SPREAD THE **BATMAN**
LEGEND ARE MY
ENEMIES! THOSE
WHO WOULD
POUNCE
BATMAN, I
MARK
FOR
DESTRUCTION!

ON-ON!
LOOKS LIKE
MY LECTURE
TO YOU ON
"THE IMPORTANCE
OF OBSERVATION"
WILL HAVE TO
WAIT! COME
ON OCK! EXPECT
THE **BAT-SIGNAL**
TO FLASH AT
ANY
MOMENT!

A SWIFT CHANGE OF GEAR AND **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN** ARE READY FOR ACTION
THEN AS THEY RACE TO THE
TELEVISION STATION

THE **WRECKER'S**
GONE **BATMAN!**
HE LEFT SOME
FIVE
MINUTES
AGO!

MMMM SAW NO
SIGNS OF HIM
O' SIDE!
PROBABLY
TOO LATE TO
PICK UP A TRAIL
COME ON,
ROBIN - WE'LL
REPORT TO
COMMISSIONER
GORDON!

AND AT POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S
HEADQUARTERS

A TOY COMPANY
SMASHED BECAUSE
THE MANUFACTURED
BATMAN TOYS
A S IN SHOP
WRECKED BECAUSE
I MADE A
BATMAN AND ROBIN
SIGN THIS IS
BAD MEN THE LIST
OF POSSIBLE
FUTURE VICTIMS
IS IMMENSE!

WE'VE GOT
OUR WORK
CUT OUT
FOR US, SIR...
AND WITH
YOUR
PERMISSION,
WE'LL GET
RIGHT
TO IT!



GIANT BATMAN



NEXT DAY IN THE BAT CAVE

I'VE CHECKED ALL THE FILES. ONLY TWO MEN FIT THE **WRECKER'S** DESCRIPTION OF HIMSELF. THAT OF HAVING **THREE** BROTHERS WHO WERE ELECTROCUTED! THEIR NAMES ARE **SKIP DENTON** AND **CAL FLINT**.

YES, I REMEMBER! THE THREE DENTON BOYS HAD A KID BROTHER WHO DISAPPEARED. AND THE FOURTH FLAT BROTHER WAS IN ALCATRAZ WHEN HIS BROTHERS WERE ELECTROCUTED. HE'S OUT OF PRISON NOW.

THEN, AS THE WRECKER'S CONTINUED AND THE FAMED A LITTLE COMPILED A LIST OF HIS BROTHERS.

WRECKER V. V. V.

GOSH, I NEVER REALIZED HOW POPULAR WE ARE. AND HOW MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE HAVE GLOVED OUR CAPERS IN VARIOUS WAYS!

WE'LL HAVE OUR HANDS FULL GUARDING THESE PEOPLE. THE POLICE WILL HAVE TO TAKE OVER THE JOB OF FINDING **DENTON AND FLINT!**

SUDDENLY A HARPED A STRID ECHOES THE BAT CAVE AS AN ECHO OF THE BATS. THE HARPED MANS ON THE BATS OF THE BAT SIGNAL.

LET'S GO, **ROBIN!** GORDON'S CALLING!

THINGS ARE SURE HAPPENING FAST. I'LL SAY THAT!

REPORTING TO GORDON THE DARING DUO'S WHEREABOUTS. THE HOME OF DENTON FORDON. FORDON'S HOME.

SO FORDON RECEIVED A DEATH NOTE FROM THE **WRECKER!**

ES, AFTER THAT RECENT BEST-SELLER HE WROTE ABOUT OUR TEN GREATEST CASES, FORDON WOULD BE A LOGICAL VICTIM!

A MOMENT LATER

YOU REMEMBER MY BROTHER DOUG. OF COURSE YOU DO. HERE'S THE NO. 1 SENT ME **BATMAN** DOUG FOLDED IT IN THE MAIL-BOX! AND I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU I WAS UPSET.

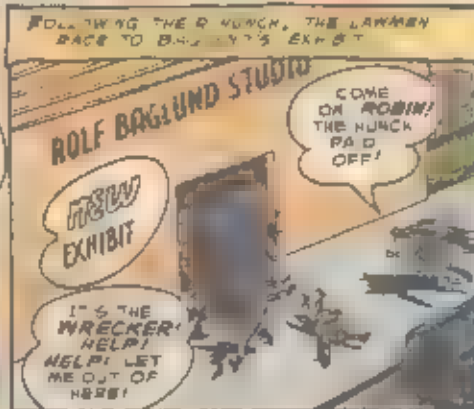
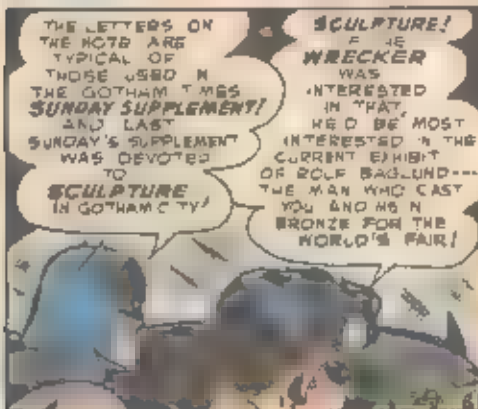
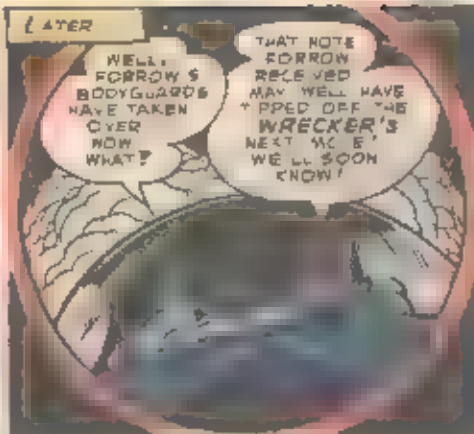
HMM. CRUELLY CONSTRUCTED OF LETTERS CLIPPED OUT OF A NEWSPAPER. IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL KEEP THIS FORDON.

I DON'T MIND AT ALL. I HOPE IT HELPS YOU! BUT WHAT OF ME? HOW WILL YOU HELP ME? I NEVER DREAMED I'D BE SIGNING MY DEATH WARRANT WHEN I WROTE THAT BOOK ABOUT YOUR EXPLOITS!





GIANT BATMAN





GIANT BATMAN



THEY AS A FURLE BATTLE RAGES THROUGH
HE NA L OF S E L R E

YOU'LL NEVER
GET ME,
BATMAN!

LET ME
USE **BATMAN!**
I'M NO A R J
OF "THESE VANDALS!"

Sudden V

BATMAN!
HEY RE TOPPLING
THAT STATUE!
BAG LND WILL
BE KILLED! HE'S
FROZEN WITH
TERROR!

MUST
FORGET ABOUT
THE **WRECKER**
FOR NOW! HAVE
TO SAVE
BAG LND!

ACTING SWIFTLY **BATMAN'S** S KEN
CORD SNAPS OUT TO LOOP AROUND
A CEILING BEAM

MADE
T' BUT BAG LND'S
STUPID MOVE
OVERTERED **ROBIN**
TWO ENGLISH
FOR THE **WRECKER'S**
MEN TO CAPTURE
HIM!

THEY FACE? BY THREATS TO **ROBIN'S**
LIFE **BATMAN** S FORCED TO
S-CRENDER!

HEY
WRECKER---
HOW ABOUT
TAKIN OFF
BATMAN'S
TASK SO S
WE KIN GET
A LOOK
AT HIM?

WE VE NO TIME!
NOT A SECOND TO
LOSE! THE S CE
MAY BE OUTS DE RIGHT
NOW!

THEY AS THE REA COLA SANGS ONLY
ON HE DO LED WARMEN AND
E- PYSR BAG LND

SECONDS
BY
BATMAN
VS
ROBIN

GRAB THEIR UTILITY BELTS
AND SHOVE THEM IN
HERE TOMORROW
WE'LL BE ABLE TO
OFFER THE CITIZENS
OF GOTHAM CITY
SENSATIONAL NEWS
IN THE OBITUARY
COLUMNS!

THEY VE
TURNED
ON WE'RE
DOOMED!

I'VE GOT
TO THINK OF
SOMETHING
BUT
FAST!

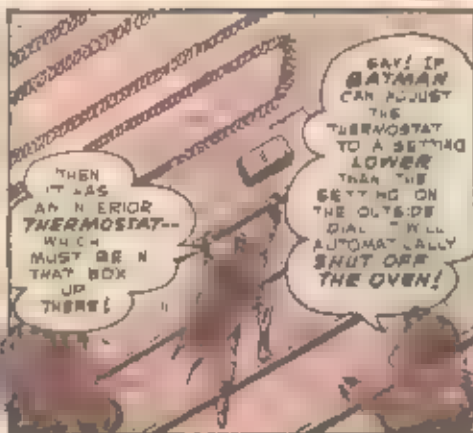


GIANT BATMAN



BAGLUND---
ISN'T THIS AN
AUTOMATIC
OVEN---
DESIGNED TO
KEEP SPECIFIC
TEMPERATURES?

WHY,
YES... IN
MANY
RESPECTS
IT'S
SIMILAR TO
AN
ORDINARY
KITCHEN OVEN!
BUT I DON'T
SEE...



THEN
IT WAS
AN INFERIOR
THERMOSTAT--
WHICH
MUST BE IN
THAT BOX
UP
THERE!

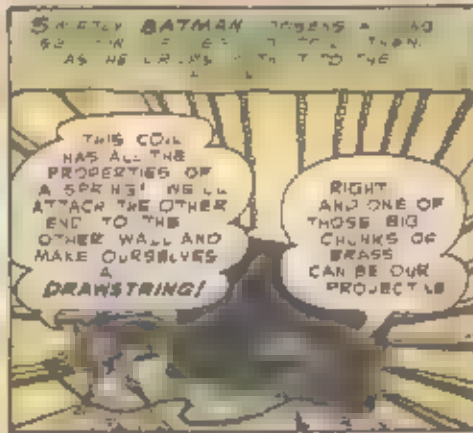
SAV! IF
BATMAN
CAN ADJUST
THE
THERMOSTAT
TO A SETTING
LOWER
THAN THE
SETTING ON
THE OUTSIDE
DIAL, IT WILL
AUTOMATICALLY
SHUT OFF
THE OVEN!



A MOMENT LATER

WA--
ROBIN!
I'VE
GOT
ANOTHER
IDEA

THAT DOES
IT! THE COILS
ARE COOLING!
BUT WE'RE
STILL TRAPPED!
THIS DOOR IS
JAMMED. IT WILL
TAKE A GOOD
JOLT TO LOOSEN
IT!



SMARTLY **BATMAN** REMEMBERS A...
SO... HE...
AS HE...
TO THE

THIS COIL
HAS ALL THE
PROPERTIES OF
A SPRING! WE'LL
ATTACH THE OTHER
END TO THE
OTHER WALL AND
MAKE OURSELVES
A
DRAWSTRING!

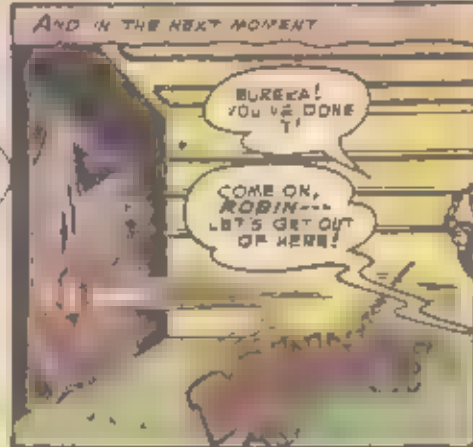
RIGHT
AND ONE OF
THOSE BIG
CHUNKS OF
BRASS
CAN BE OUR
PROJECTILE



A MOMENT LATER

(GASP!
RIGHT!)

PARTY, STEADY,
ROBIN! GASP!!
WHEN I SAY
THREE, LET
HER GO.



AND IN THE NEXT MOMENT

BUREKA!
YOU'VE DONE
IT!

COME ON,
ROBIN--
LET'S GET OUT
OF HERE!



GIANT BATMAN



LATE THE NEXT AFTERNOON IN THE LOCKER ROOM OF THE GOTHAM COUNTRY CLUB

WELL MR BURKE AND MR THOMPSON FOR A PAIR OF PLAIN CLOTHESMEN YOU'RE NOT BAD GOVERS AT ALL!

NO - BUT I BE I LOST TEN POUNDS! THAT SLY HAS MURDER BUT THERE MR FORROW!

THEN AFTER FORROW'S EP, THERE WAS DINED THEM FOR DINNER AT THE CLUB

YOU MUST BE MORE CAREFUL - SO QUITE A FEW PEOPLE AT DINNER COULD HAVE HEARD YOU WHEN YOU ANNOUNCED A DESIRE TO GO FOR A DRIVE THIS EVENING WE'D RATHER YOUR MOVEMENTS WEREN'T KNOWN TO ANYONE!

GOSH - I KEEP FORGETTING! OH WELL I DON'T SUPPOSE THE WRECKER IS A MEMBER OF THE CLUB!

BUT LATER ON THE BERRY RIVER ROAD WHEN FORROW'S LUGS HIS CAR TO BYLON HE RUGGED STENERY

DON'T MOVE ANYONE OR YOU GET A SLUG IN THE NECK!

HA HA! AN EXCELLENT LOCATOR FOR MURDER! DUMP A BODY INTO THIS RIVER, AND IT WILL BE CARRIED RIGHT OUT TO SEA

A FEW HOURS LATER AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS

THEY SLUGGED US ALL BUT MY WOUND WASN'T TOO BAD! I CAME TO IN TIME TO SEE THEM THROW MY POOR BROTHER BOUND HAND AND FOOT INTO THE RIVER! THIS IS COULD BE MURDER COMMISSIONER!

I KNOW - I KNOW WHAT CAN I SAY, OTHER THAN WE'LL LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED IN OUR HUNT FOR YOUR BROTHER'S MURDERER BURKE FILE YOUR REPORT - I WANT TO ENJOY IT AND NOW I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO BATMAN AND ROBIN ALONE.

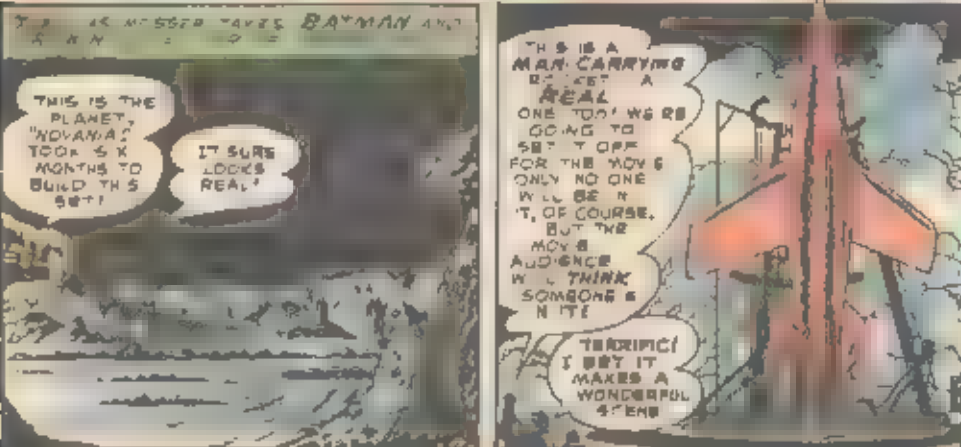
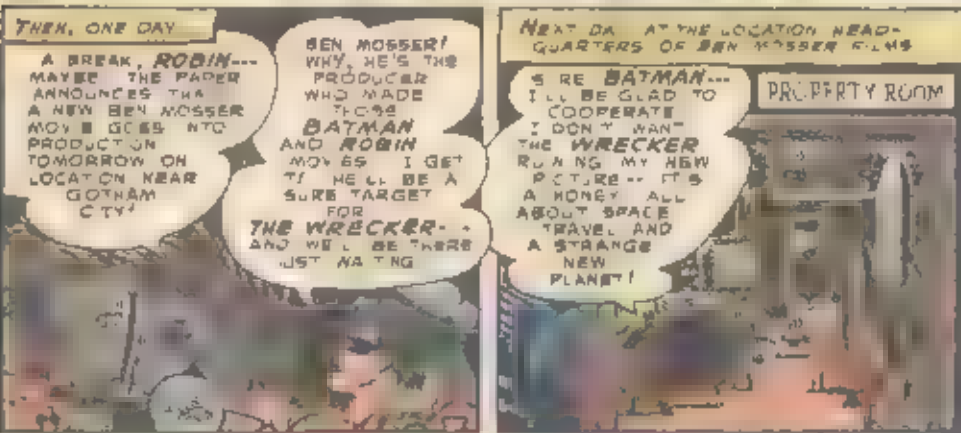
THIS IS BAD BATMAN! A MARK AGAINST THE POLICE! FORROW WAS OUR CHARGE! WE'VE GOT TO AVENGE HIS DEATH PROMPTLY!

ROBIN AND I WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN!

ONE MORE THING - MY MEN FINALY RAN ACROSS SKIP DENTONS TRAIL THEY TRAILLED TO THE GOTHAM COUNTRY CLUB WHERE HE WAS EMPLOYED AS A BUS BOY! HE WAS THERE TONIGHT - AT DINNER - HE'S SINCE DISAPPEARED - AND THE MAN - BATMAN!



GIANT BATMAN





GIANT BATMAN



NEXT DAY...

HERE COME THE EXTRAS, IN THEIR SPACE UNIFORMS. THEY SURE LOOK WEIRD, DON'T THEY?

I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING, **ROBIN**. I WANT TO SPEAK TO THE CAMERAMAN A MOMENT. BE RIGHT BACK...



SOON AFTER, AS BATMAN REJOINS ROBIN...

BATMAN! THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE HERE! EXTRAS USUALLY STAND ABOUT IN GROUPS, DISCUSSING THE SCENE TO COME. THESE PEOPLE HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO EACH OTHER AT ALL--- AND THEY SEEM TO BE DRIFTING THIS WAY.

HMM... THERE IS SOMETHING OMINOUS ABOUT THEM...



THEN, WITHOUT WARNING!

I WAS RIGHT, **BATMAN!** IT'S THE **WRECKER** AND HIS MEN---

TOO MANY OF THEM! WE'VE GOT TO RUN, **ROBIN**--- REAL EXTRAS! TRY TO FIGURE A SURPRISE COUNTER-ATTACK!

GET 'EM! GET **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!



BUT A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

DON'T WORRY, BOYS--- WE GOT 'EM!

AND FOR GETTYN' 'EM FIRST, WE GET THE HONOR OF DRAGGIN' 'EM OUT TO SHOW THE BOSS!



THE ROCKET IS OPENED, THE LIMP FIGURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE THROWN IN--- AND THEN!

BOSS, LET US STUFF THESE CHARACTERS INTO THE **ROCKET**-- AND THEN SET THE THING OFF!

A GREAT IDEA! GO AHEAD, BOYS--- THE FUN IS ALL YOURS!



SO LONG, **BATMAN**! SOON, HE'LL REALLY BE OUT OF THIS WORLD! HAW!





GIANT BATMAN



BUT THEN, WITH STUNNING RAPIDITY!

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, BOYS! BUT I FIGURED **ROBIN** AND I NEEDED THE ADVANTAGE OF **SURPRISE** OURSELVES. THE GAS PELLETS, **ROBIN... QUICKLY!**

THOSE WERE **DUMMIES** IN THE ROCKET! HE DISGUISED OURSELVES IN SOME SPARE SPACE-UNIFORMS!

BATMAN!



ABRUPTLY, FATE DEALS BATMAN A BITTER BLOW! THE LAUNCHER, WEAKENED BY THE ROCKET'S TERRIFIC BLAST, SUDDENLY TOPPLES OVER!

A BREAK! COME ON, MEN---LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

BATMAN! YOUR HEAD!



SOON AFTER...

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT NOW, **BATMAN?** THE CAMERAMAN HAS SOMETHING TO TELL YOU...

I DID LIKE YOU SAID, **BATMAN...** TURNED MY CAMERAS ON THE **WRECKER** WHEN HE SHOWED UP. YOU CAN SEE THE FILM IN A FEW MINUTES---IT'S BEING PROCESSED NOW...

YES. LET'S SEE IT, JUST IN CASE. **OOOH, MY HEAD!**



LATER, IN A PROJECTION ROOM...

THAT'S ABOUT IT, **BATMAN---** WHEN THAT PLATFORM FELL ON YOU AND KNOCKED YOU DOWN, I INSTINCTIVELY LEFT THE CAMERA AND RUSHED TO HELP YOU...

WAIT! **HOLD IT!** I WANT TO STUDY THIS MORE CAREFULLY. I SEE SOMETHING ON ONE OF THE **WRECKER'S** HANDS!



AND A FEW HOURS AFTERWARDS, WHEN ROBIN ENTERS COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

AN, **ROBIN!** IT'S ALL OVER, LAD! YOU CAN CALL **BATMAN** AND TELL HIM TO COME IN! FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG TIME, MY MEN BEAT YOU TO THE PUNCH! THEY PICKED UP SKIP DENTON --- AND FOUND DWIGHT FORROW'S CIGARETTE LIGHTER ON HIM!





AND AS GORDON AND ROBIN ENTER A NEARBY INTERROGATION ROOM...

WHAT ABOUT THE LIGHTER, DENTON? YOU HAD THE LIGHTER! WHAT ELSE DID YOU BEAR BEFORE YOU DUMPED FORROW'S BODY??

NUYHIN'! NUYHIN'! I DIDN'T DUMP NO BODY! FORROW GIVE ME THE LIGHTER, I TOLD YALL!

I KNOW HIS TYPE! HE'LL BREAK DOWN SOON, AND CONFESS EVERYTHING!

PARDON, COMMISSIONER. BATMAN IS IN YOUR OFFICE, SAYS IT'S IMPORTANT!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

DWIGHT FORROW... ALIVE PPP BUT... BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HE WAS MURDERED!

NO! JUST A FAKED DEATH, SO HIS BROTHER COULD COLLECT A LARGE AMOUNT OF INSURANCE! THE TWO HAD PLANS TO LIVE IN SOUTH AMERICA!

SO DWIGHT FORROW WAS THE **WRECKER!** AND HIS FAR-REACHING CAMPAIGN AGAINST **BATMAN** AND HIS FRIENDS WAS ALL A HOAX TO MAKE HIS OWN "DEATH" BELIEVABLE! A ROLE CREATED AS A **SMOKESCREEN**. TO BE CONTINUED UNTIL THE INSURANCE WAS PAID!

YES! ONCE I SUSPECTED FORROW, INVESTIGATION REVEALED HE WAS HEAVILY IN DEBT, DUE TO **GAMBLING**. I FOUND HIM AND HIS BROTHER IN THEIR CELLAR, WHERE THEY HAD AN ELABORATE HIDEOUT! POLICE ARE THERE NOW, ROUNDING UP THE WHOLE GANG!

AND AS BATMAN REVEALS A HASTILY-MADE SKETCH OF THE FORROW CELLAR...

WHEN HIS BODYGUARDS THOUGHT HE WAS SLEEPING OR WORKING, FORROW SLIPPED OUT TO BECOME THE **WRECKER!** HE HAD SPOTTED DENTON AT HIS CLUB, ATTEMPTED TO MAKE HIM THE FALL GUY!

VERY SMOOTH! REMEMBER... FORROW'S BROTHER WAS THE ONLY WITNESS TO A "MURDER" THAT NEVER EVEN HAPPENED! THAT DAY, THE **WRECKER** WAS A HENCHMAN IN DISGUISE!

AND LATER, IN THE HALL OF TROPHIES, BATMAN CAREFULLY PLACES A GOLF GLOVE AMONG THE HONORED SOUVENIRS ON DISPLAY...

THE BLOTCH ON THE HAND! **SUNBURN**... DUE TO THE **OPEN BACK** OF A GOLF GLOVE! THAT'S HOW YOU BECAME SUSPICIOUS OF FORROW!

YES! HE WAS THE ONLY **GOLFER** IN THE CASE! AND MOST GOLFSERS GET THAT PARTIAL BURN THE FIRST TIME OUT EACH YEAR! I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU SOONER, **ROBIN**... BUT I WANTED TO IMPRESS UPON YOU THIS LESSON IN THE **POWERS OF OBSERVATION!**

THE GOLF GLOVE HINT LED TO THE REVEALING OF DENTON'S FUGITIVE, THE **WRECKER!**

Dear Editor:

Marvelous! That's the least I can say about your publishing Batman stories from the '30's and '40's. First you reprinted the very first Batman story in DETECTIVE No. 187, and now you bring us "Here Comes Alfred" in GIANT BATMAN No. 213. Please continue to reprint stories as old as these. Incidentally, why didn't you reprint "The Origin of Robin" as it originally appeared in DETECTIVE No. 38? Why was it redrawn? In Sweden it's quite difficult to get your comics. In Stockholm (with about 1,000,000 inhabitants) there is just one store which carries the American editions.

—Elas H. Reimers, Stockholm, Sweden

(Sorry we couldn't bring you anything from the '40's except the newspaper strip, this issue. The fact is, we only have the negatives of issues from the early '50's—and no original art from the early years. Photographing from the magazine is difficult because the colors come out in black or gray. "Here Comes Alfred" and some other older issues have been reproduced by tracing them. But this takes some time, and costs too much. There were more complications with the Robin story. In the original version, the Dynamic Duo occasionally acted in a way contrary to their code. We made a few minor changes and put in some new details in the rewritten version.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

The latest GIANT BATMAN was one of the best yet. I have some questions, though, about the origin stories. In "The Origin of Robin," Dick captures his parents' killers as Robin. But in "The Man from Robin's Past" reprinted a few years back in MORE SECRET ORIGINS, Robin's origin was retold, and Batman captured the killers, before Dick became Robin. Which is right? In "Here Comes Alfred," Alfred discovered the Batcave by accident. But in "The Secret of Batman's Butler," reprinted in GIANT BATMAN No. 7, Dick called Alfred to the Batcave to help Batman when he was hurt. And Alfred applied for a job as Butler. Which origin is correct?

—Stephen Weissbach, Teaneck, N.J.

(While researching "The Origin of Robin," we came across no less than four stories telling how Dick Grayson became the Boy Wonder. Only "The Man from Robin's Past" varied in not having Robin catch his parents' killers. And since "Here Comes Alfred" was the original origin of Bruce Wayne's butler, we accept it over the later version.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

In No. 208, someone asked where the Giant Penny in Batman's trophy room came from. Well, I was looking through some Batman cards a few days ago and I came across the one I'm enclosing in this letter. It shows the Joker rolling a giant penny, with Robin tied to it, at Batman. It says, "Never one to waste a penny. The Joker thought Batman and Robin's lives an unsound investment! But the flame from a Bat-match proved him wrong and sent him penniless, back to the pen!" I hope this will help.

—Sam Moore, New York, N.Y.

(Thanks, Sam. Lots of other fans offered their suggestions—and one or two even found the original story—which did NOT involve the Joker! It was "The Penny Plunderer," published in WORLD'S FINEST No. 30, Sept.-Oct. 1947. The Giant Penny was part of an exhibit which villain Joe Coyne, who specialized in thefts involving pennies, tried to rob. Batman

clabbered some of the gang with the penny.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

We are long-time Batman readers, and happened to pick up the latest BATMAN GIANT. We are seriously concerned over the misrepresentation of the Joker's origin as presented in "The Man Behind the Red Hood." If memory serves us correctly, the Joker's weird coloring resulted from an accident which prevented him from removing his circus make-up. How can the latest generation of readers be made to trust and believe in your magazine if you continue to contradict yourselves?

—Phillip Stahlman and Stewart Jennison, Centre College, Danville, Ky.

(We consulted many experts on Batman while preparing the last issue, including Bob Kane, the Caped Crusader's creator. None of them could recall any other origin for the Joker besides that in the "Red Hood" story, which originally appeared in 1951. If you can prove we have contradicted ourselves, we'll be glad to apologize. But we suspect it's your memories that are at fault.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

In your latest Giant, you stated that "The Man Behind the Red Hood" was first published in DETECTIVE 186 (Feb., '31). Feb. '51 is No. 166. And the footnote on page 4 of "The Origin of Robin" says "When Batman Was Robin" was published in DETECTIVE 266 (Dec., '51). Dec. '50 was issue 226.

—Jim Fitzpatrick, Sudbury, Ont., Canada

(You must have plenty of girl friends, Jim. You've sure proved you're a "whiz" when it comes to DATES.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

This is the closest you've ever come to perfect! I am referring, of course, to BATMAN No. 213. Orzreecat (as a certain riger once said!) You started your way to the perfect Giant with No. 203, with the excellent Neal Adams cover, all real old stories (pre-1960), and the section of new art. Then came the next stop, in BATMAN No. 208. Although the cover wasn't as good as the previous one (using parts of earlier covers in a couple of places), the complete story, with reprint excerpts, provided a welcome escape from the traditional Giant. The old and new were masterfully interwoven (thanks to you and Gil Kane), but it got a bit nerve-wrecking, with all the different styles. You fell a little short of perfect. This—No. 213. The cover (by Vince Colletta!) was a great start. Next, the Robin story. I knew most of it, but some of the things were new to me. Good Going! Now, for the next Giant, have a format like No. 208, old stories like 213, and more new art. Since I understand you (or Mr. Schwartz) plan a spectacular change in Batman, why not have the whole Giant centered about it, with Batman and Robin reflecting upon the past, using reprints?

—Neil S. Pomer, Seaford, N.Y.

(An interesting idea, but the big change has already come in the December BATMAN. As for the last GIANT BATMAN cover, it was inked by Colletta, but pencilled by Bill Draut. Incidentally, the picture of Batman and Robin in the center was a copy of the splash of the story that introduced Robin, in DETECTIVE No. 38.—Ed.)

Remember, if you have any comments on this issue, send them to GIANT BATMAIL, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.